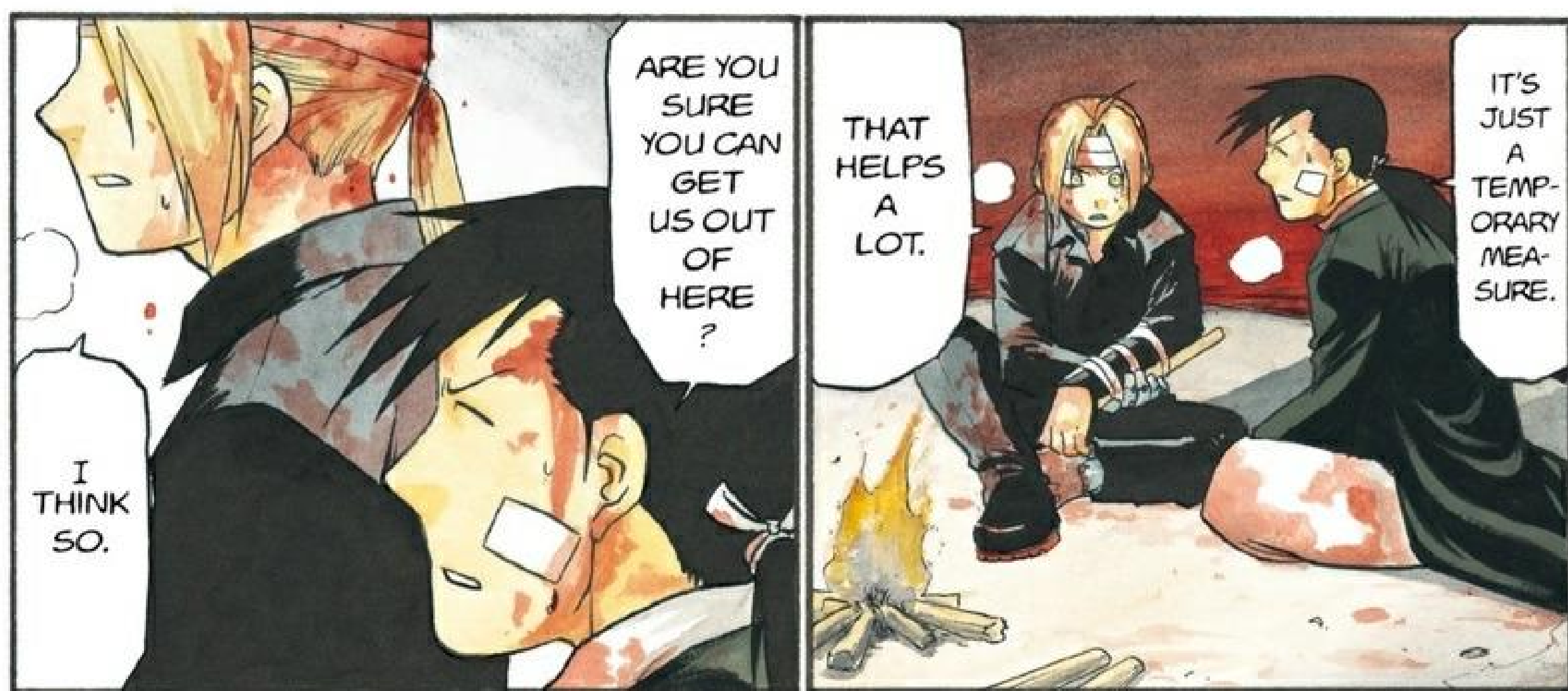




OUCH !

TUG

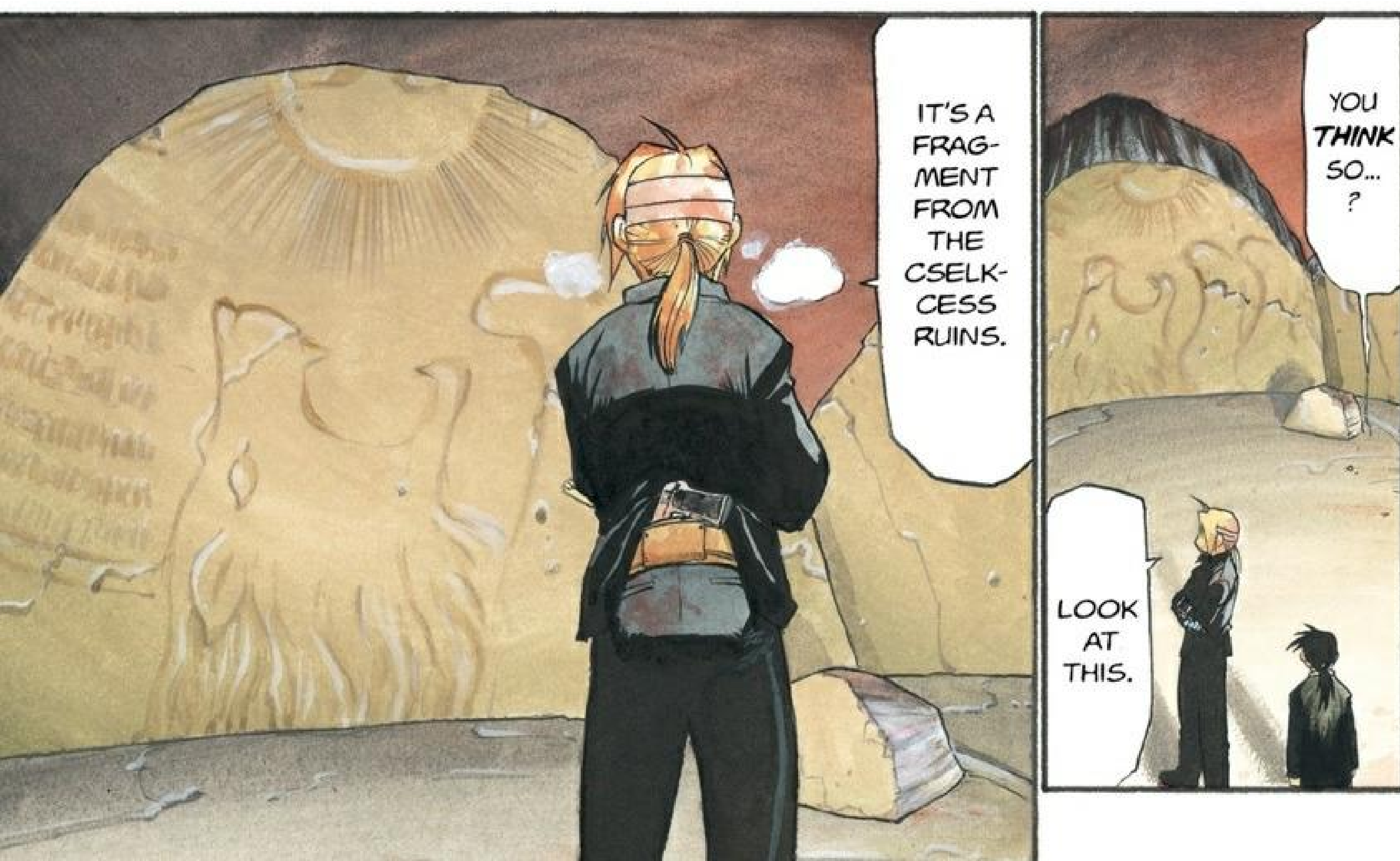


ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN GET US OUT OF HERE ?

THAT HELPS A LOT.

IT'S JUST A TEMPORARY MEASURE.

I THINK SO.



IT'S A FRAGMENT FROM THE CSELK-CESS RUINS.

YOU THINK SO... ?

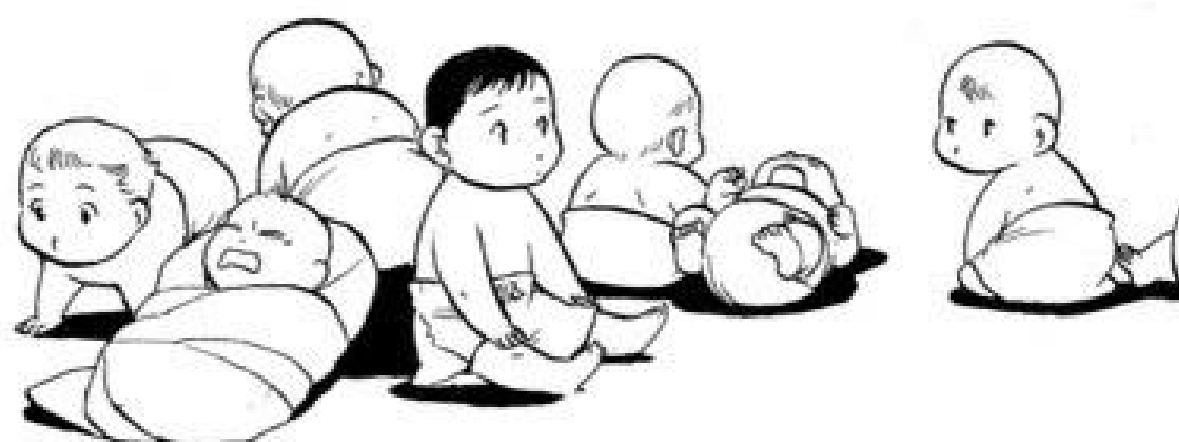
LOOK AT THIS.



Chapter 53 Signpost Of The Soul



FOR ALL I KNOW,
MY PARENTS
MIGHT HAVE
ABANDONED
OR SOLD ME
BEFORE I WAS
EVEN GIVEN
A NAME.



I DON'T
REMEMBER
THE NAMES OR
FACES OF MY
TRUE PARENTS...
I DON'T EVEN
REMEMBER MY
OWN NAME.



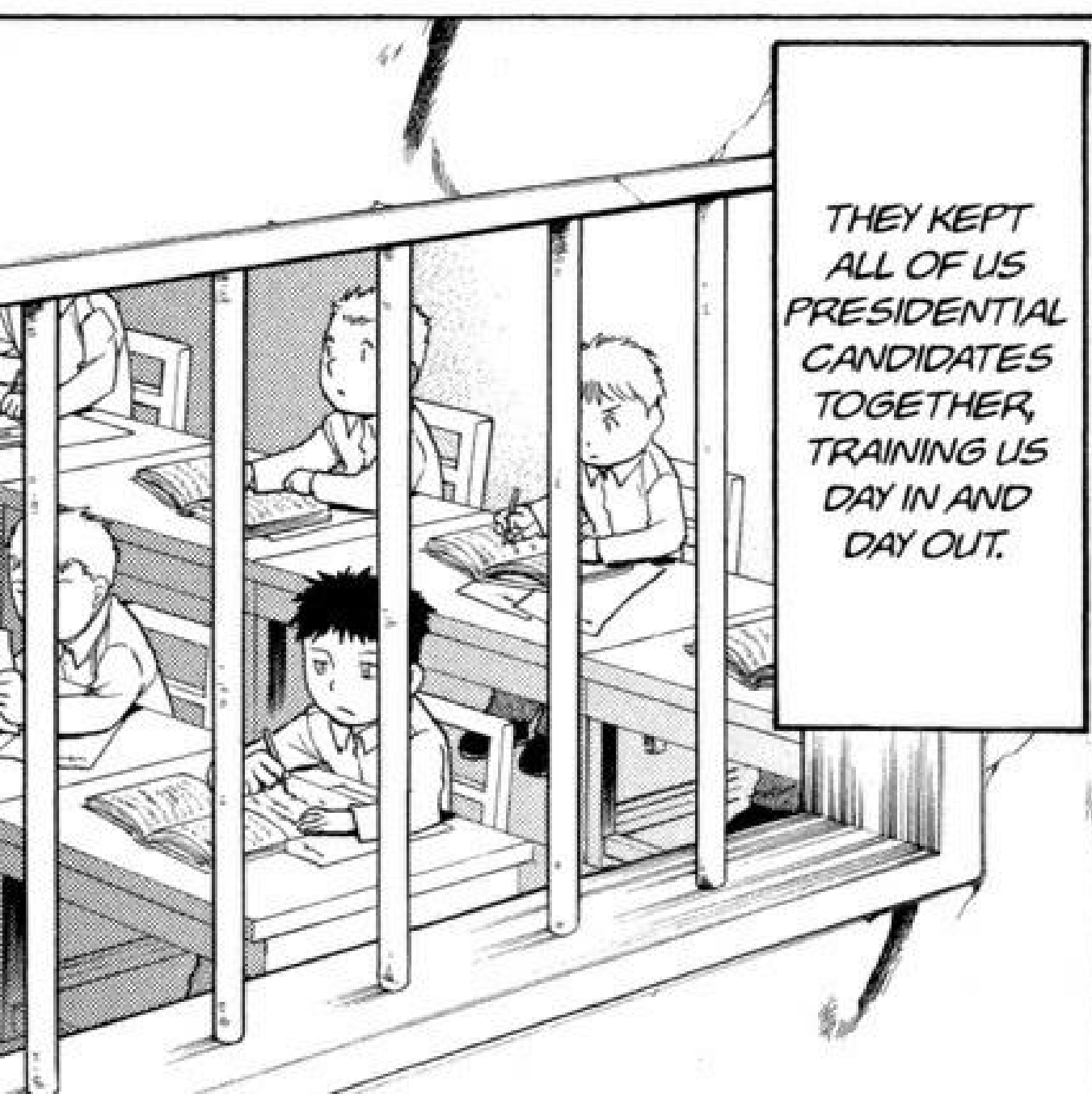
WHO
WILL BE
THE
ONE TO
LEAD
THIS
COUNTRY
?

WELL
NOW...

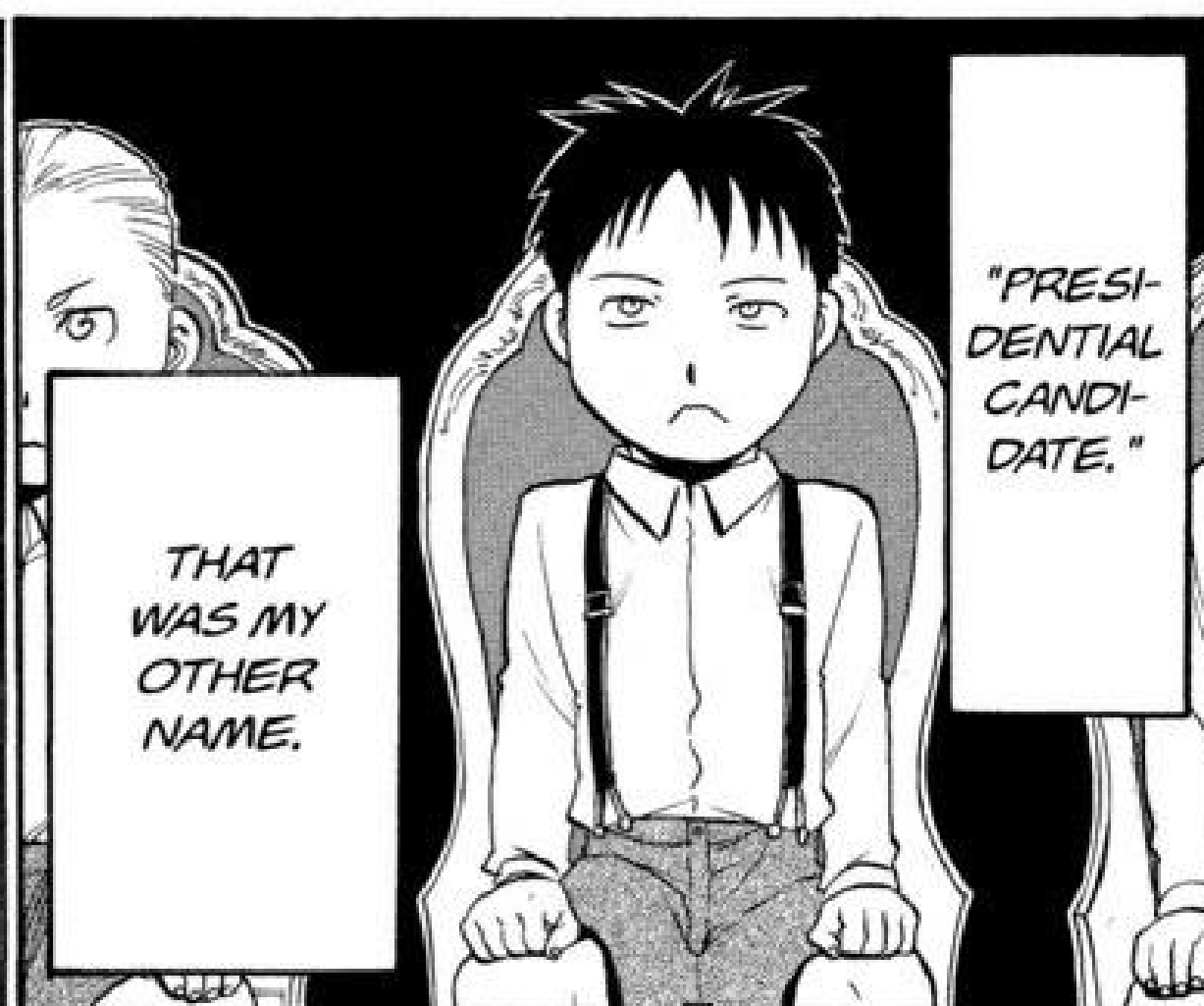
COULD
IT
BE
YOU
?



AS FAR BACK
AS I CAN
REMEMBER,
THE MEN IN
THE WHITE
COATS ALWAYS
WATCHED
OVER US.

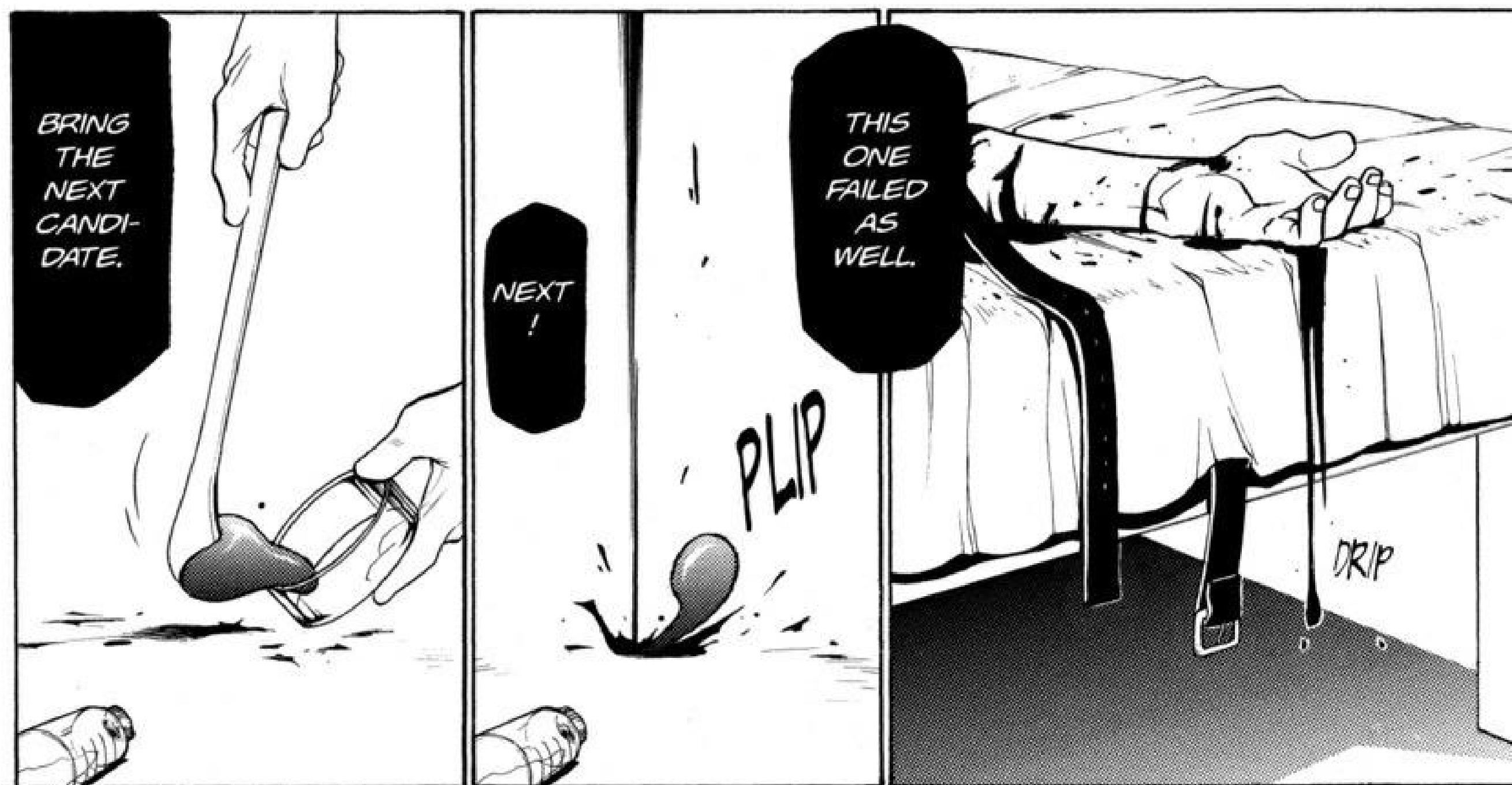
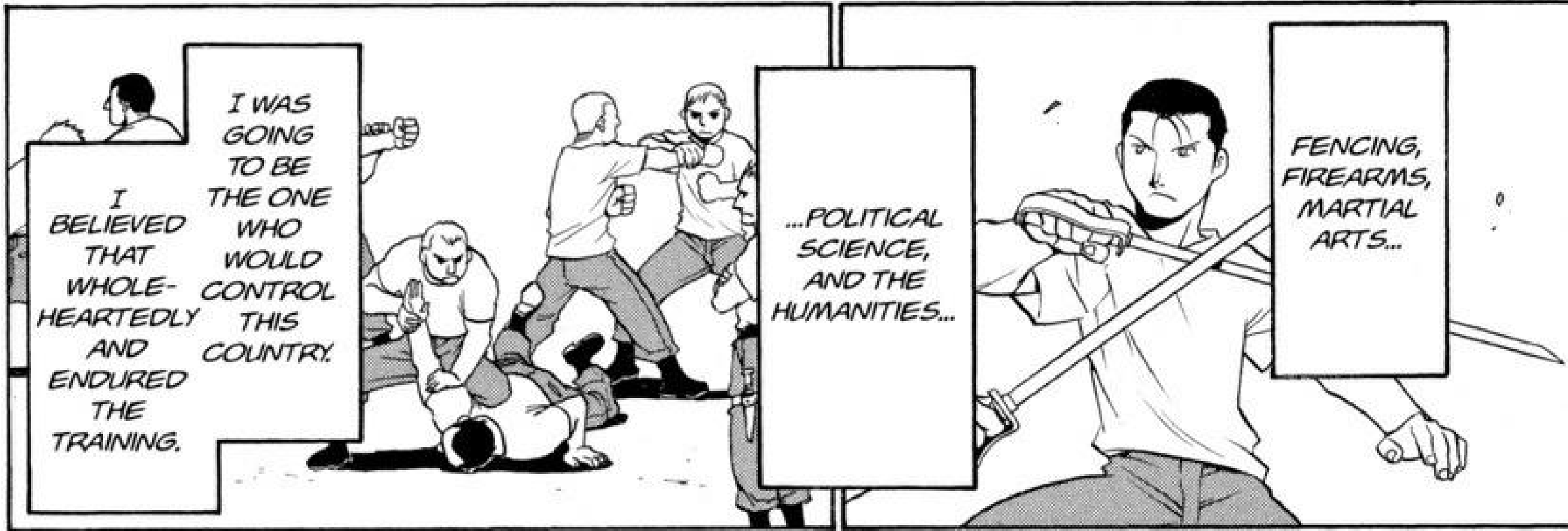


THEY KEPT
ALL OF US
PRESIDENTIAL
CANDIDATES
TOGETHER,
TRAINING US
DAY IN AND
DAY OUT.

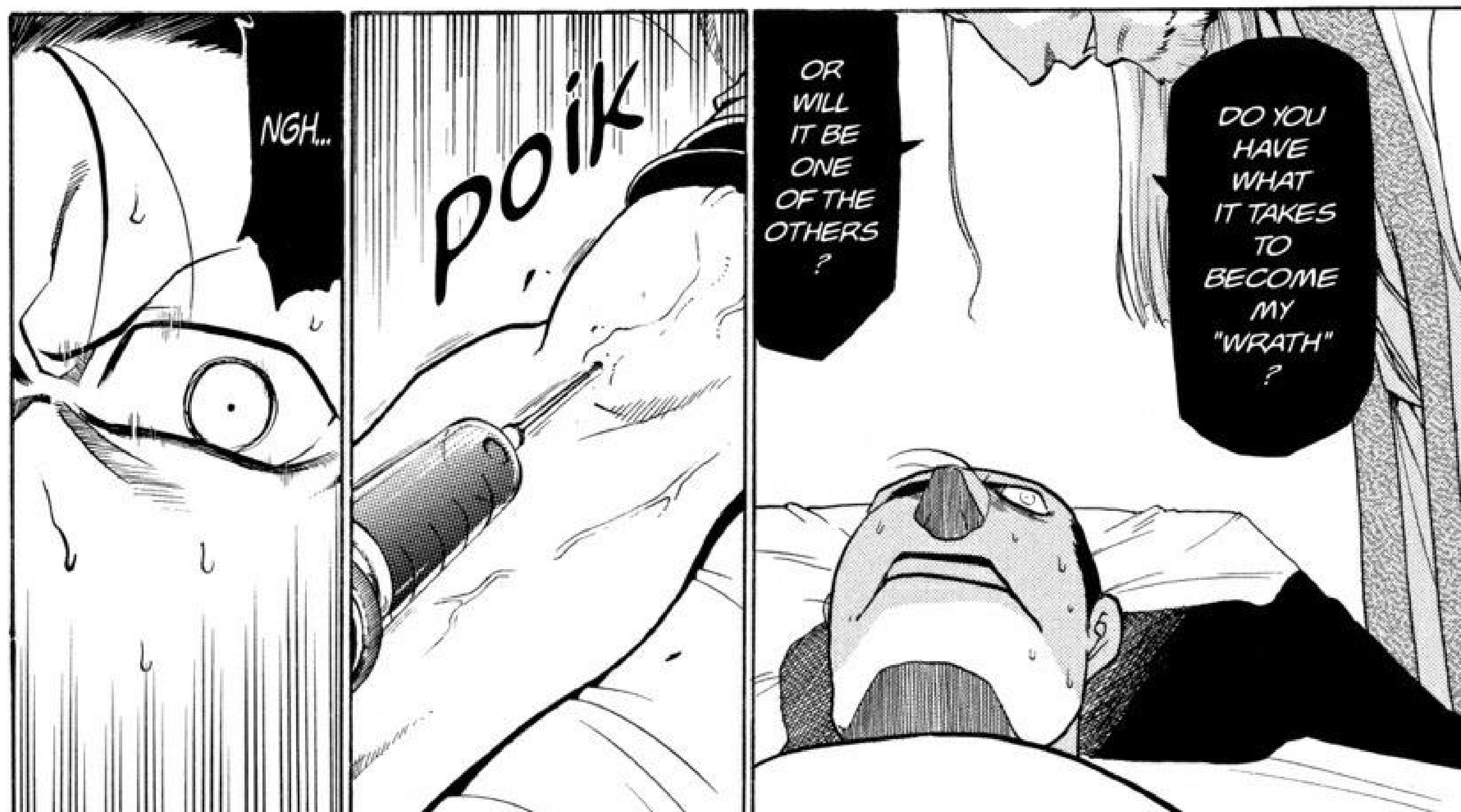
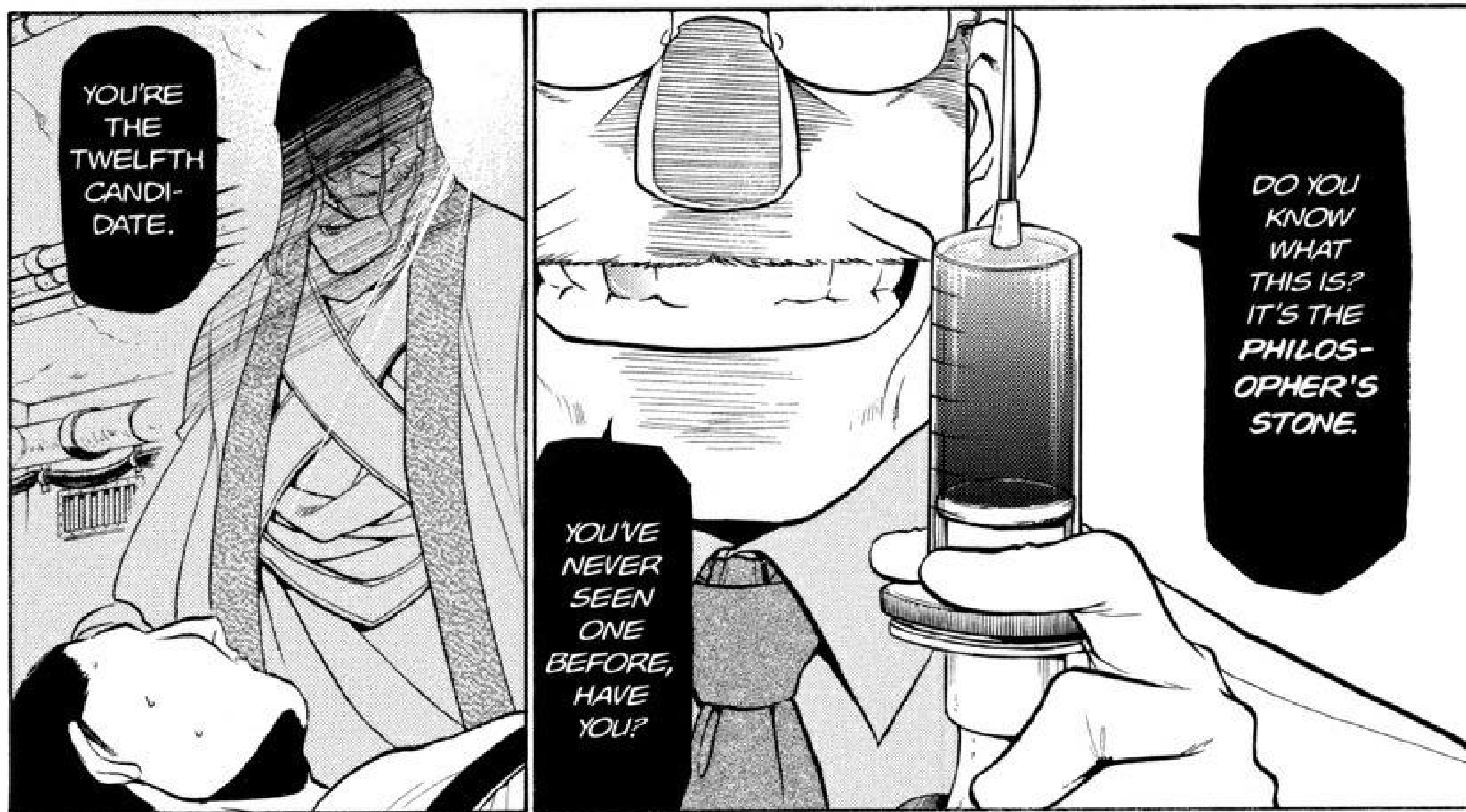


THAT
WAS MY
OTHER
NAME.

"PRESI-
DENTIAL
CANDI-
DATE."







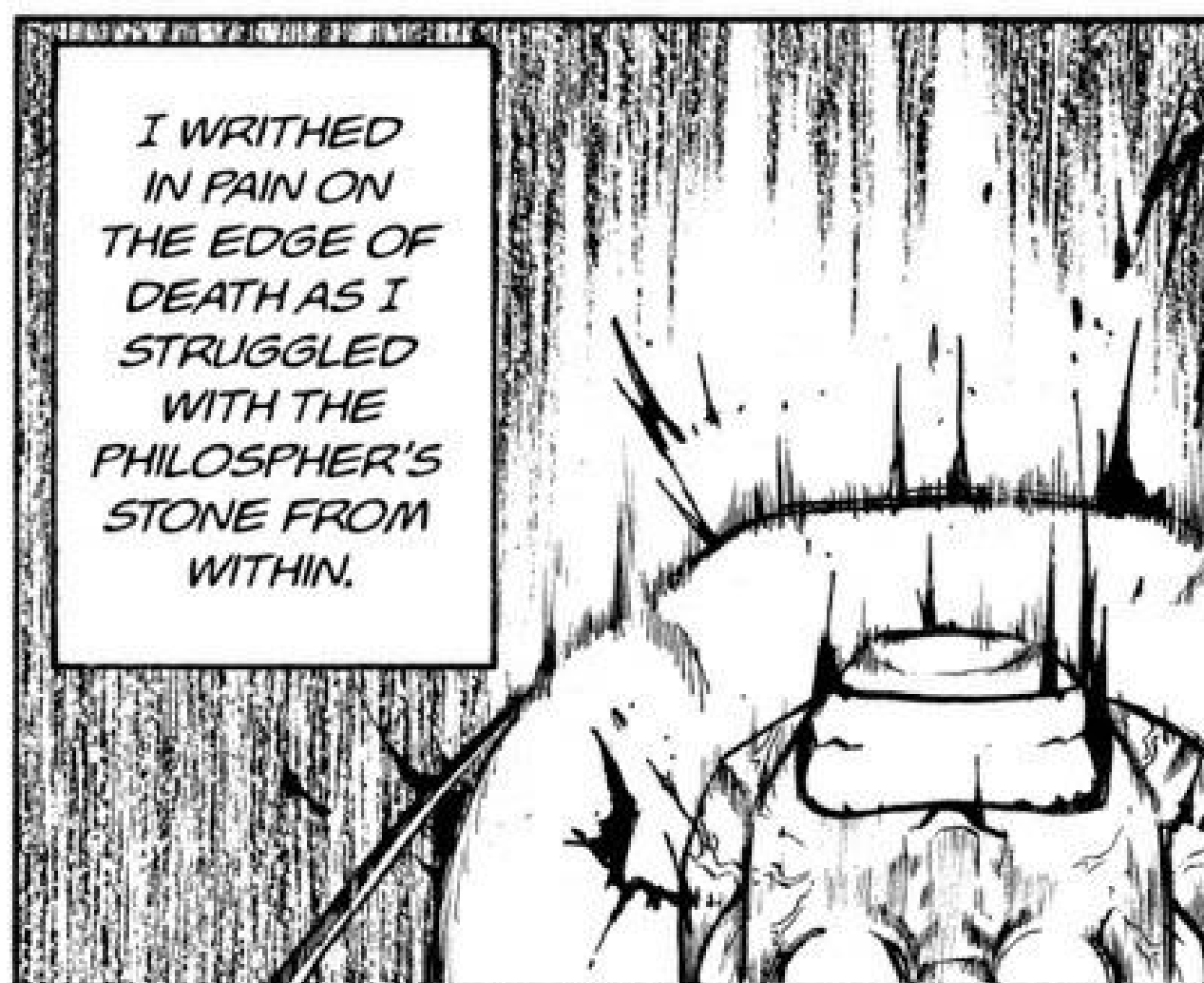


WHEN
INJECTED,
THE BODY
TRIES TO
REJECT THIS
POWERFUL
FOREIGN
SUBSTANCE
AT ONCE...

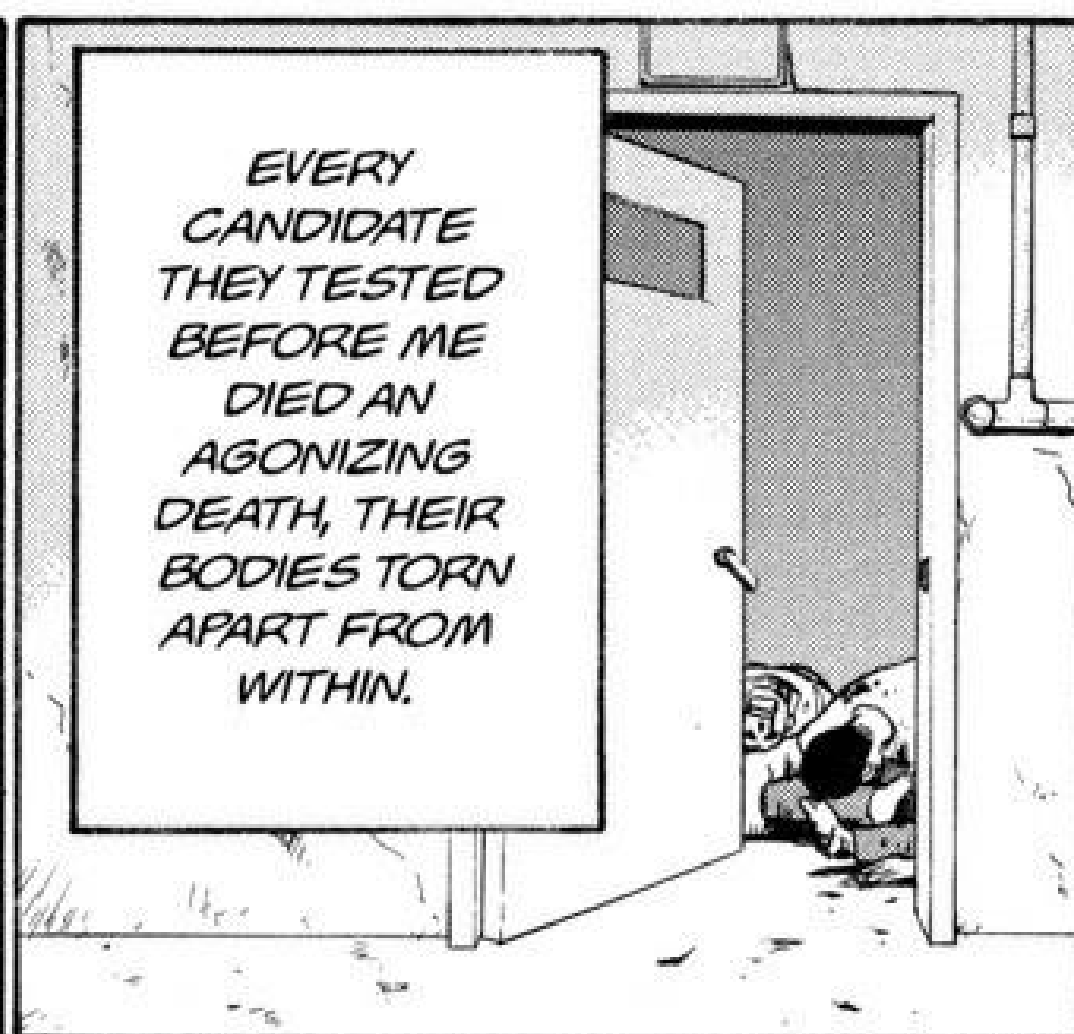
...WHILE
THE
STONE
TRIES
TO TAKE
OVER
ITS NEW
HOST.

A
R
R
R
G
H

THE
PHILOSOPHER'S
STONE
CONTAINS THE
ENERGY OF
COUNTLESS
SOULS.



I WRITHED
IN PAIN ON
THE EDGE OF
DEATH AS I
STRUGGLED
WITH THE
PHILOSOPHER'S
STONE FROM
WITHIN.



EVERY
CANDIDATE
THEY TESTED
BEFORE ME
DIED AN
AGONIZING
DEATH, THEIR
BODIES TORN
APART FROM
WITHIN.

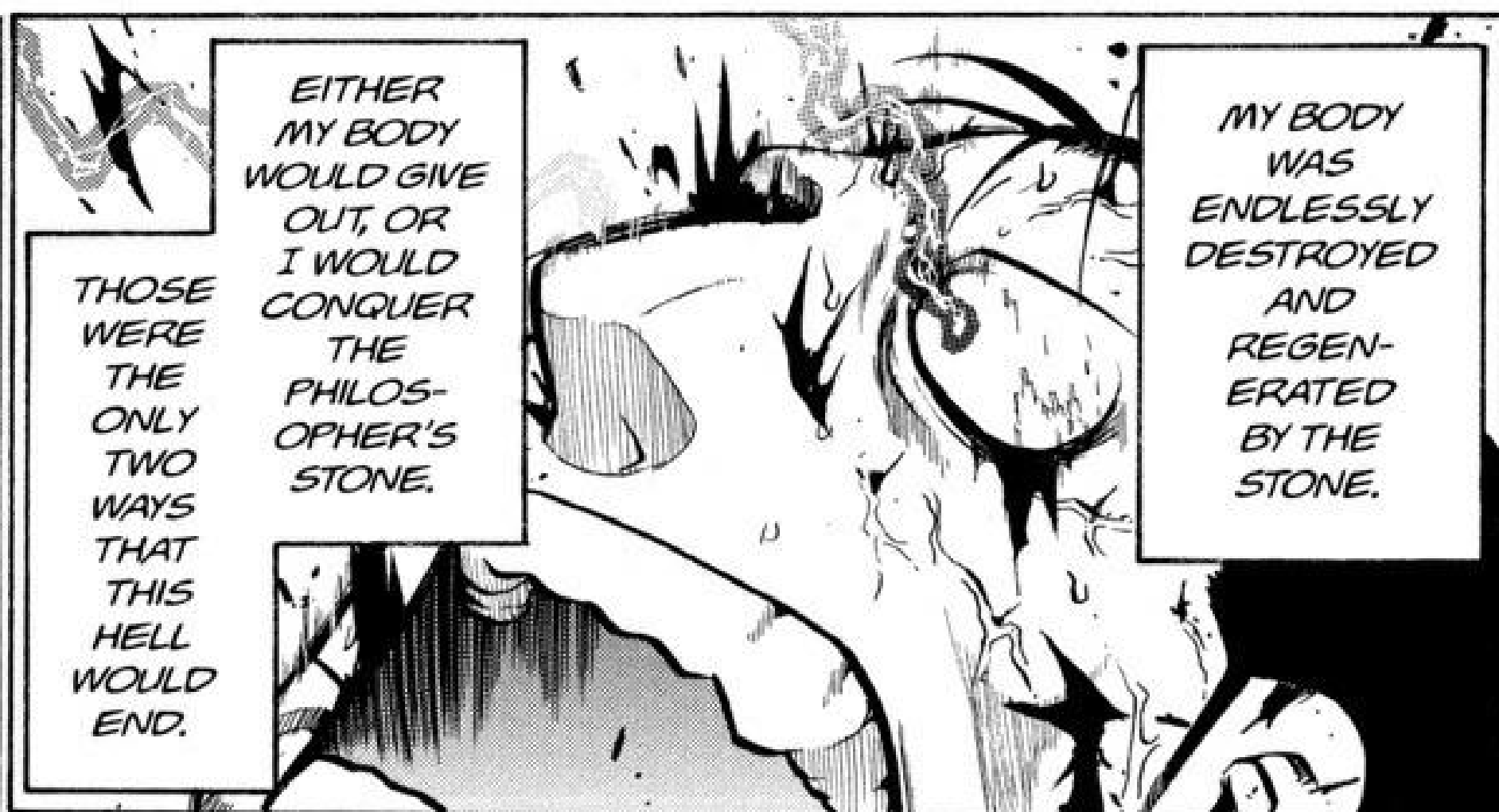


EVEN-
TU-
ALLY...

WON-
DERFUL
!

THOSE
WERE
THE
ONLY
TWO
WAYS
THAT
THIS
HELL
WOULD
END.

EITHER
MY BODY
WOULD GIVE
OUT, OR
I WOULD
CONQUER
THE
PHILOS-
OPHER'S
STONE.



MY BODY
WAS
ENDLESSLY
DESTROYED
AND
REGEN-
ERATED
BY THE
STONE.



YOU ARE
THE ONE
WHO WILL
LEAD
MANKIND
TO HIS
DESTINY!

CONGRAT-
ULATIONS!
YOU
HAVE
BEEN
CHOSEN!



IT'S THE
BIRTH
OF A
NEW
TYPE
OF
HUMAN
BEING!

WE
ARE
WITNES-
SING
THE
DAWN OF
A NEW
ERA!



FROM
TODAY
YOUR
NAME
WILL
BE...



YOU
HAVE
NOTHING
TO
WORRY
ABOUT.

LEAVE
EVERY-
THING
TO
US.

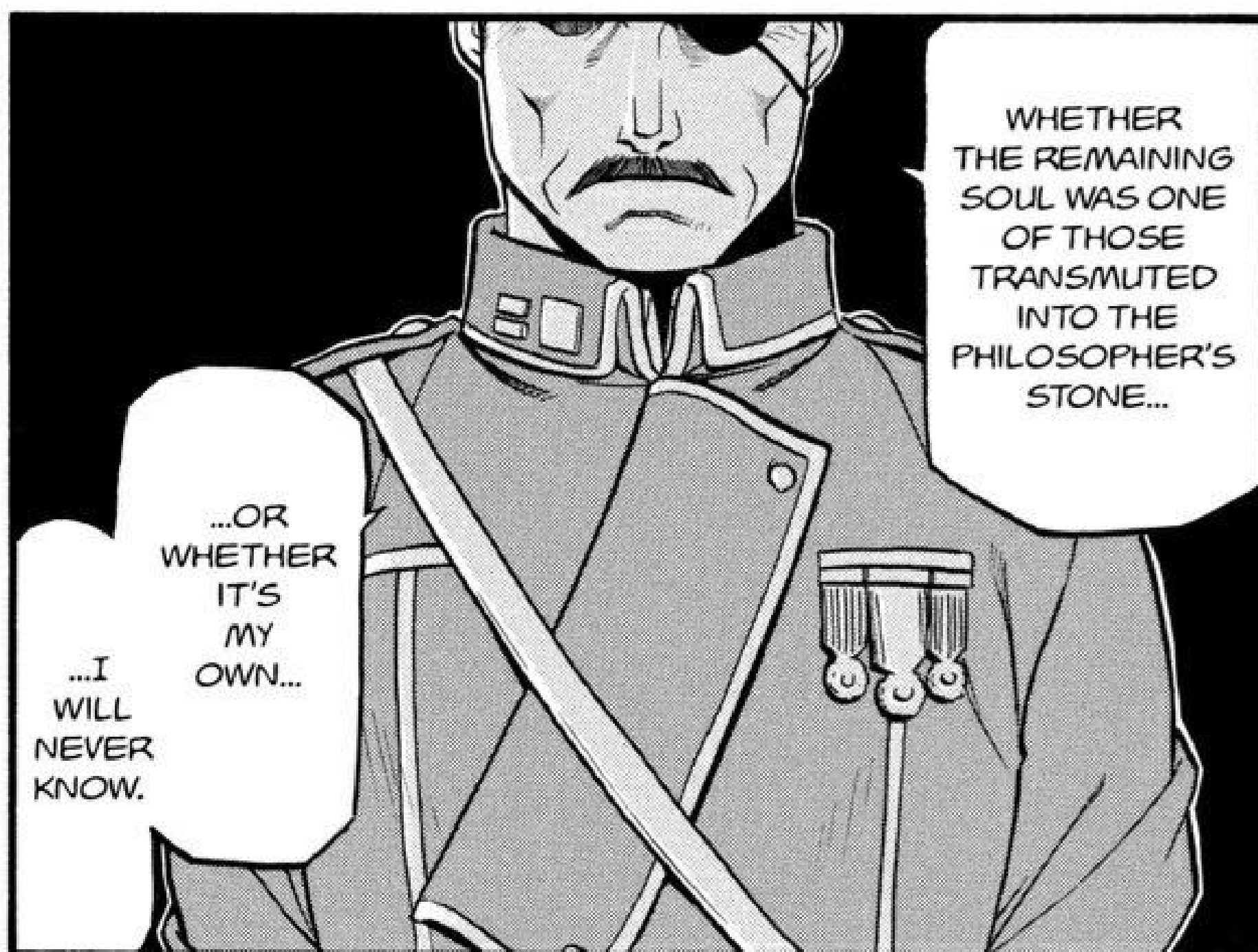
WE'LL
PROVIDE
YOU WITH A
CAREER,
PROPERTY,
FAMILY,
FRIENDS
AND
ANYTHING
ELSE YOU
MAY NEED!

THAT'S
RIGHT! WE
NEED TO
GIVE YOU
A NAME
THAT'S
WORTHY
OF THE
LEADER
OF THIS
COUNTRY!



THE LEFT EYE OF
THIS ONCE NAMELESS
TEST SUBJECT HAD
ROTTED AND FALLEN
OUT, BUT BECAUSE
OF MY NEW SUPER-
HUMAN POWERS I
WAS ABLE TO
MAINTAIN CONTROL
OVER MY BODY.

KING
BRAD-
LEY.

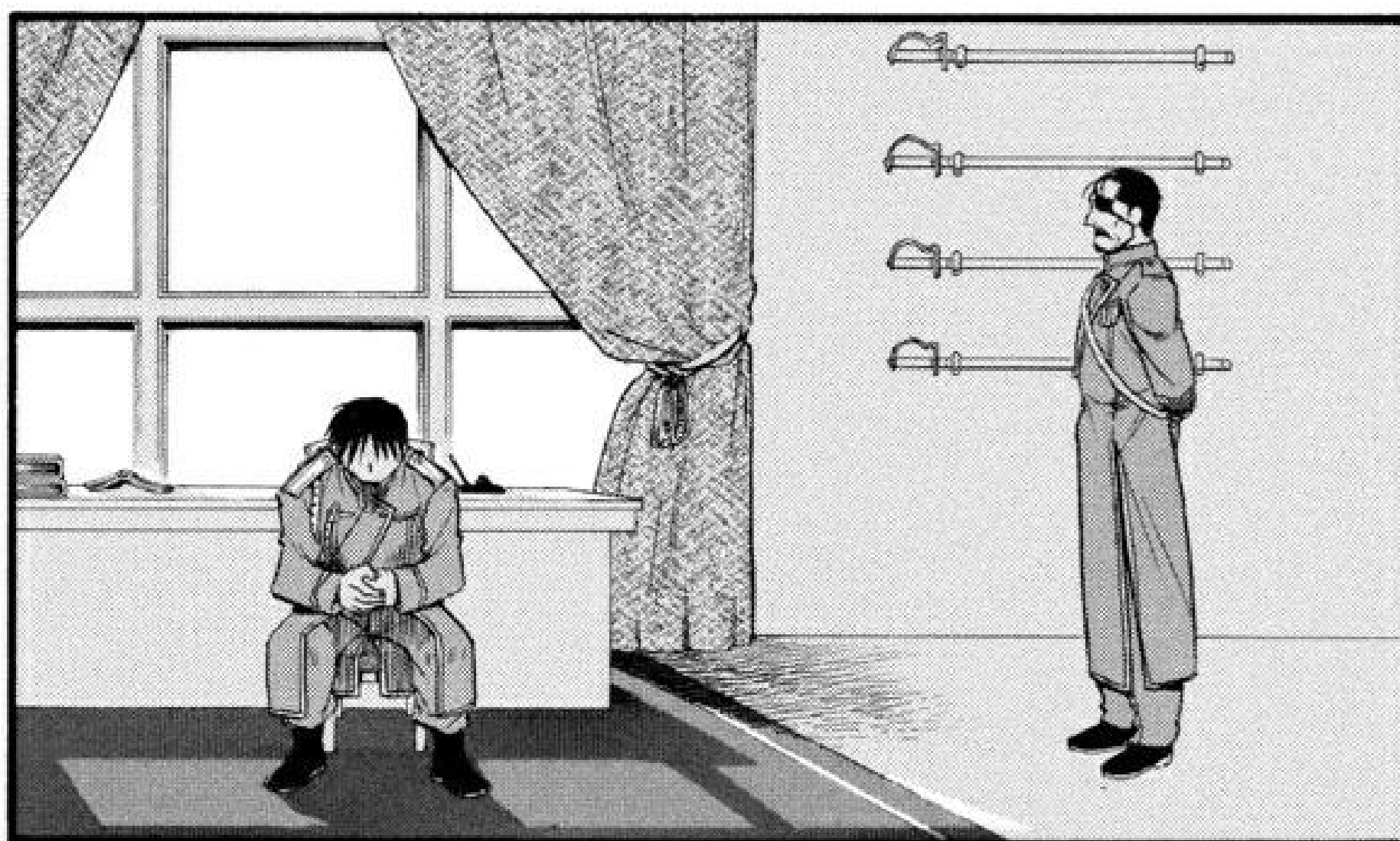


WHETHER
THE REMAINING
SOUL WAS ONE
OF THOSE
TRANSMUTED
INTO THE
PHILOSOPHER'S
STONE...

...OR
WHETHER
IT'S
MY
OWN...

...I
WILL
NEVER
KNOW.

OF ALL
THE SOULS
THAT HAD
WARRED
WITHIN ME,
ONLY ONE
WAS LEFT.
JUST ONE
SOUL WHICH
FELT BUT
ONE
EMOTION--
WRATH.



IF
YOU
USED
TO
BE
HUMAN...



...SIR
?

...ISN'T THERE
A WAY FOR YOU
TO LIVE AS A
HUMAN BEING
AGAIN, AND
NOT AS A
HOMUN-
CULUS...



WE ARE
DIFFER-
ENT
FROM YOU
HUMANS.
*SUPER-
IOR.*

NOW,
WHY
WOULD
I DO
THAT?

YOU'RE
SUG-
GESTING
I
BECOME
HUMAN
AGAIN?

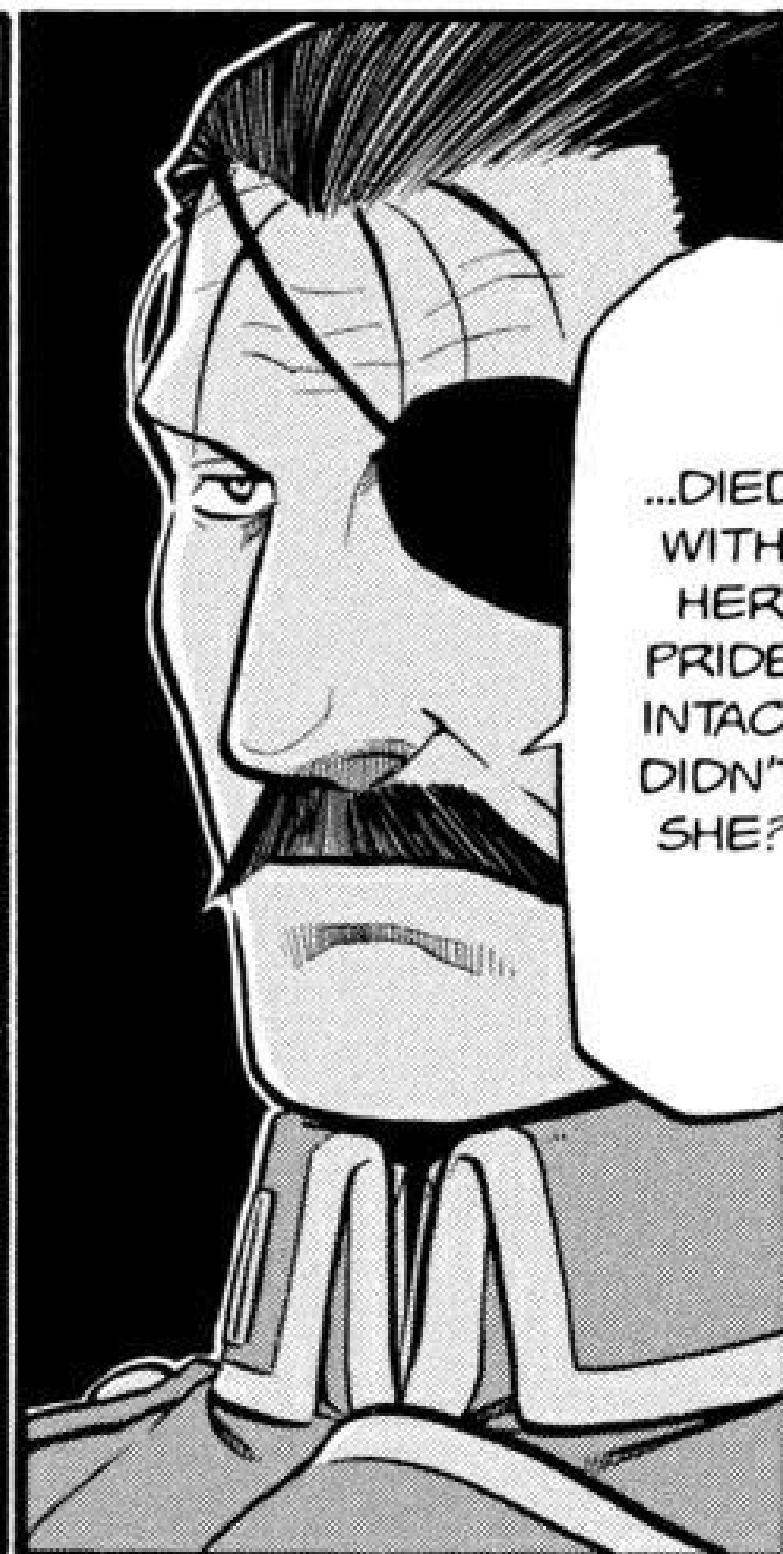


AND JUST AS
YOU HUMANS
TAKE PRIDE IN
BEING HUMAN,
WE HOMUNCULI
ARE PROUD OF
WHAT WE ARE.



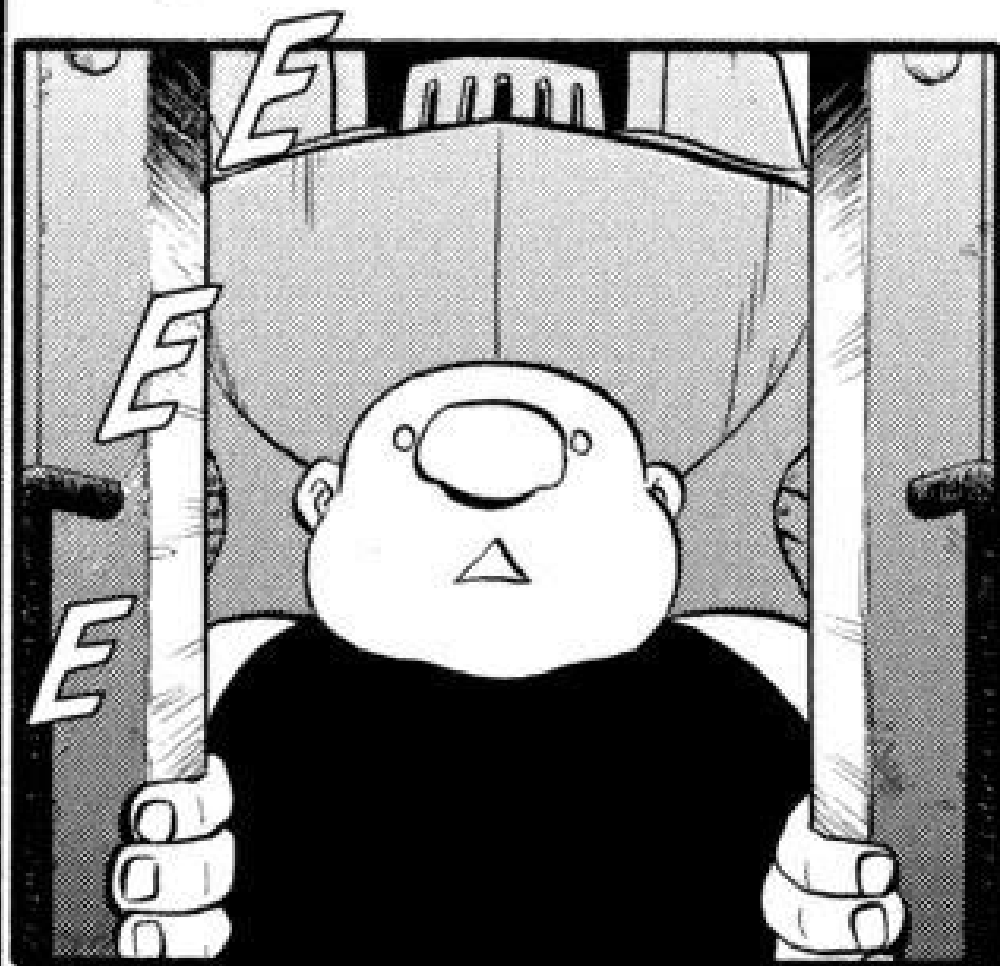
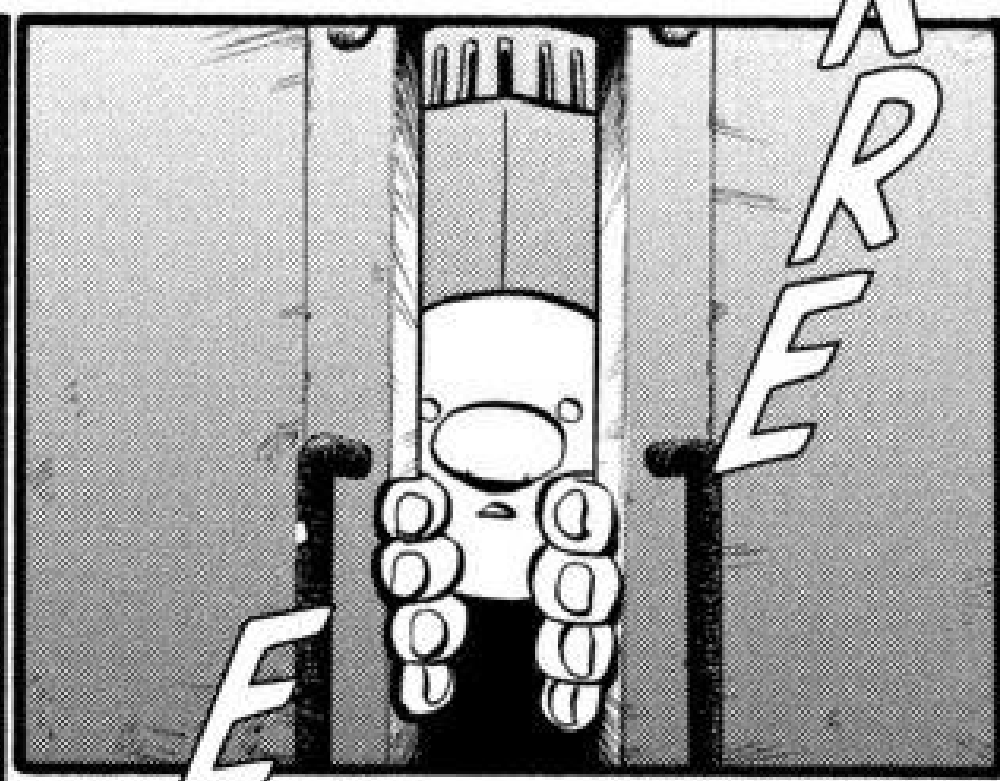
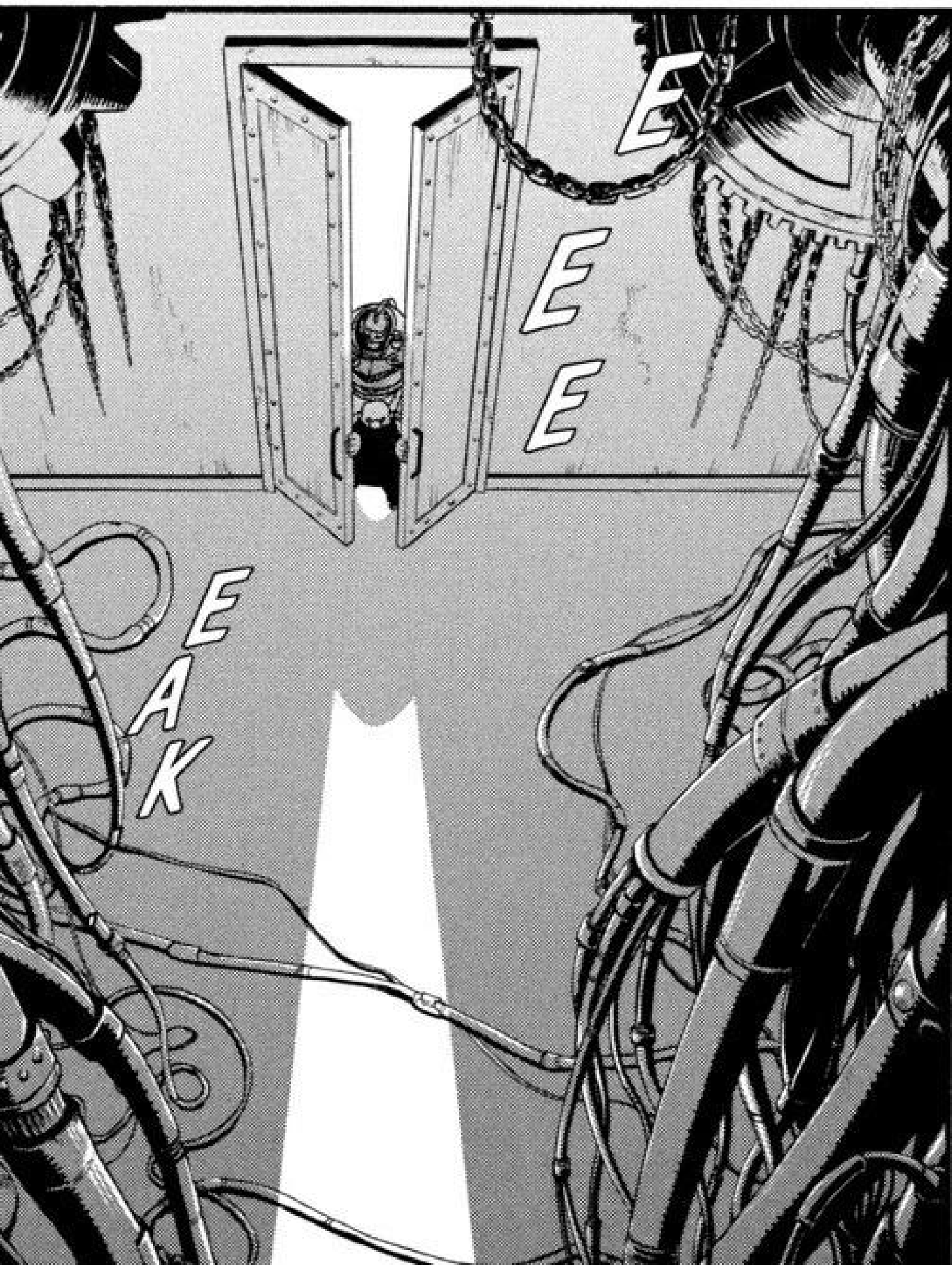
MY
STRENGTH
AND
EYESIGHT
HAVE
TRAN-
SCENDED
THAT OF
A MERE
HUMAN'S.

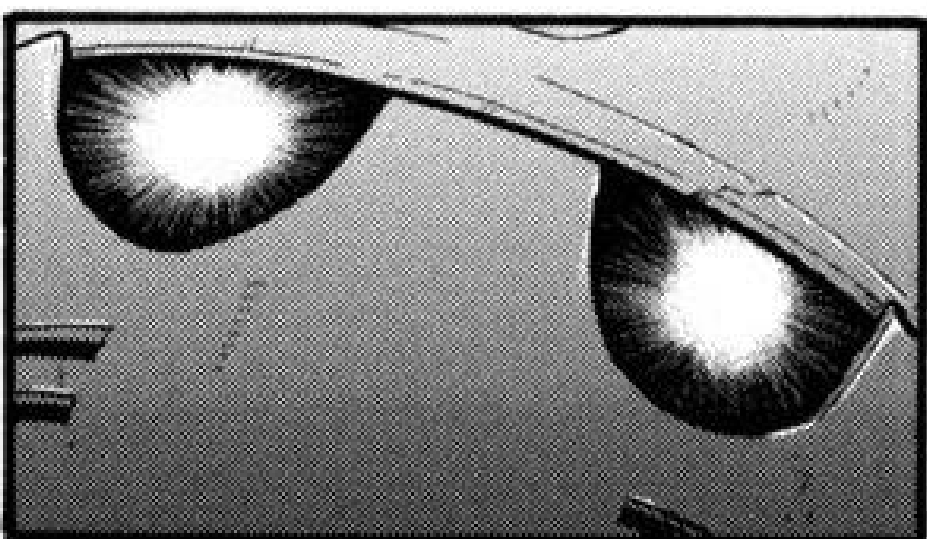
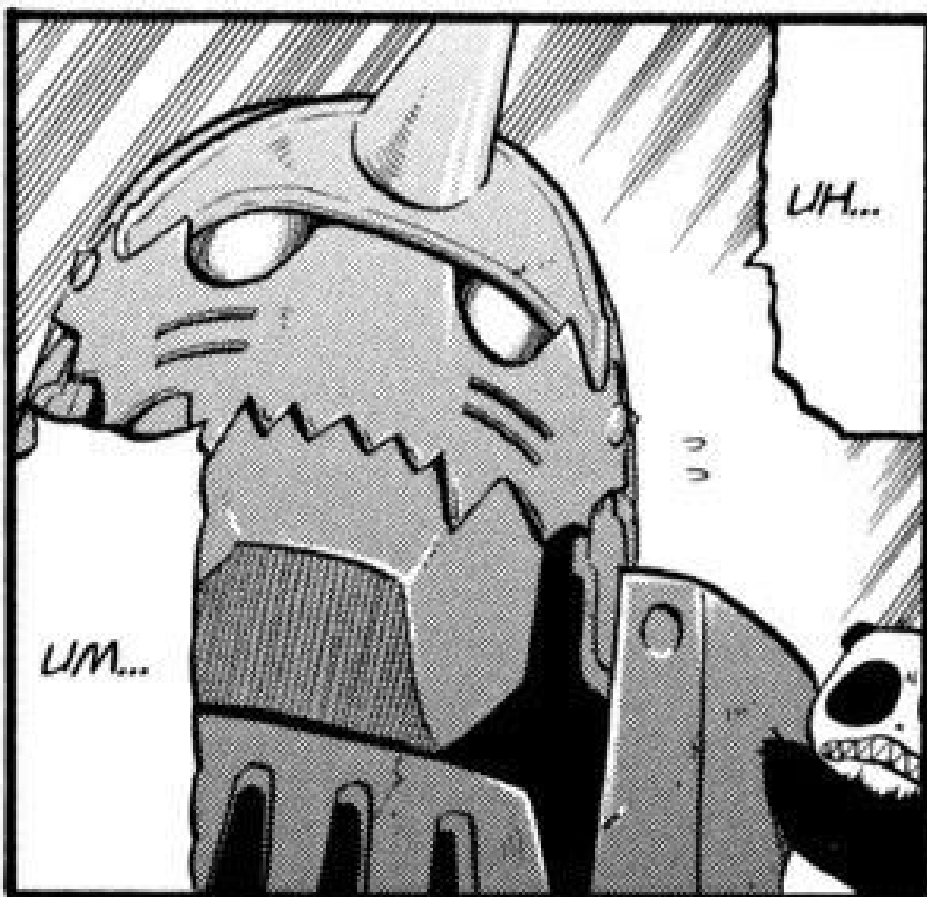
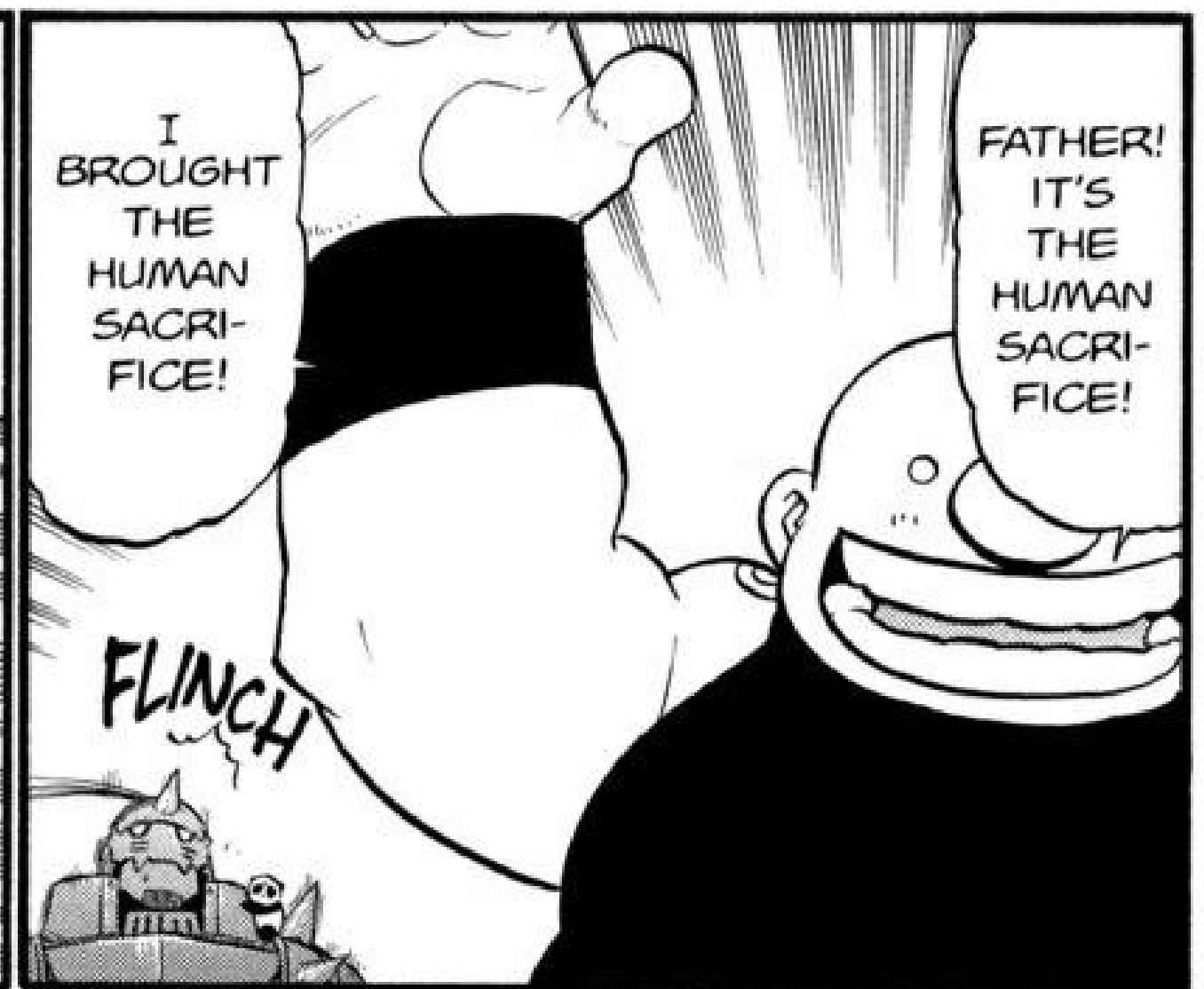
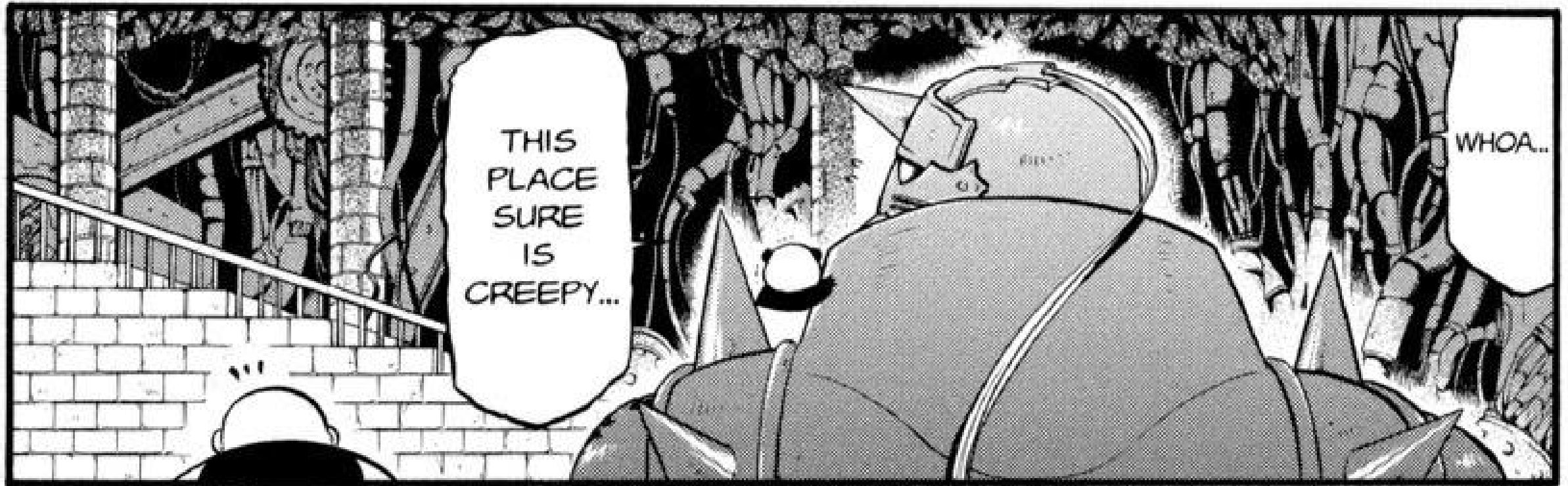
WE ARE
NOT THE
PRODUCT
OF
CHANCE.
WE
HOMUNCULI
WERE
CREATED
FOR A
PURPOSE.

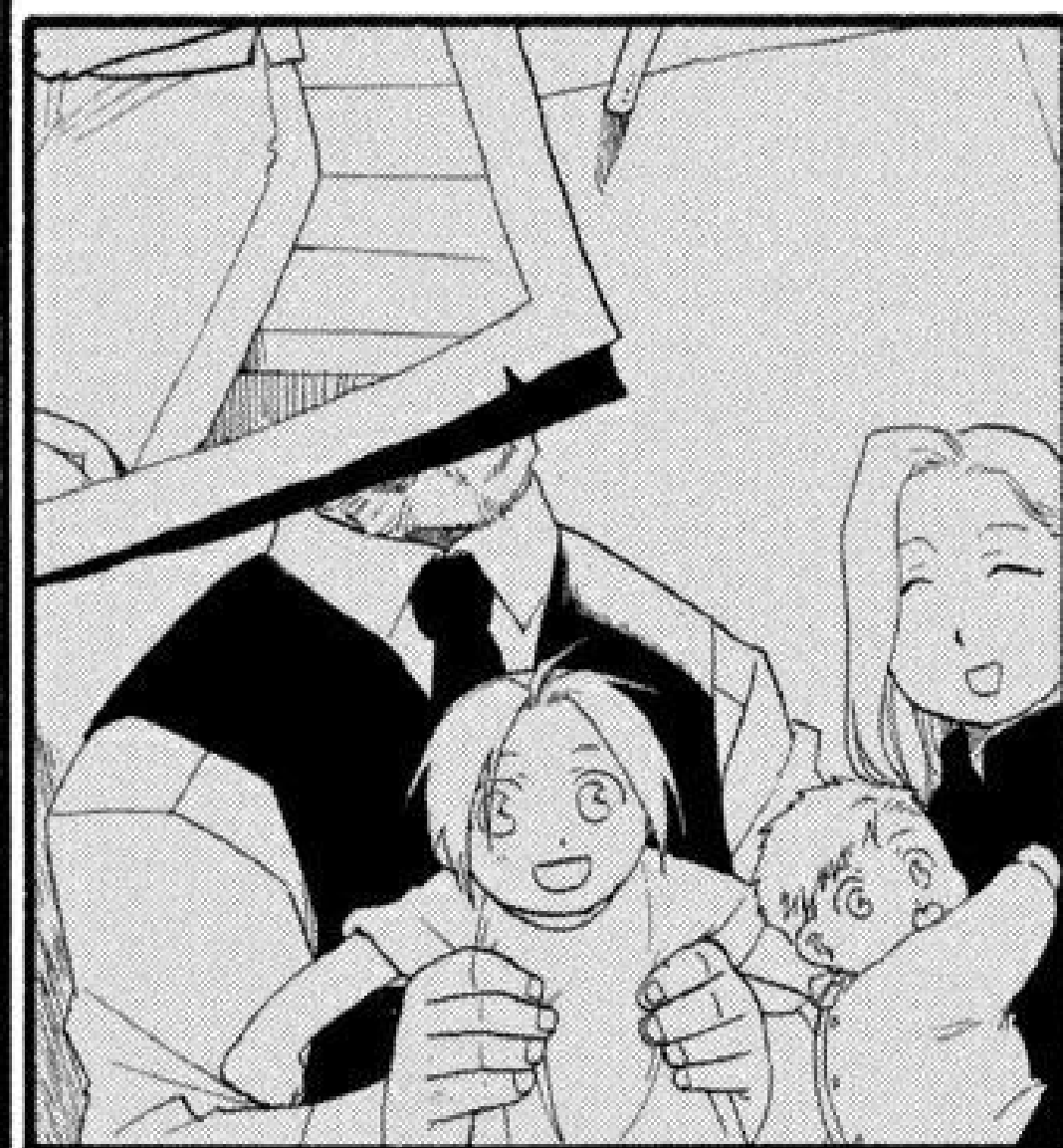
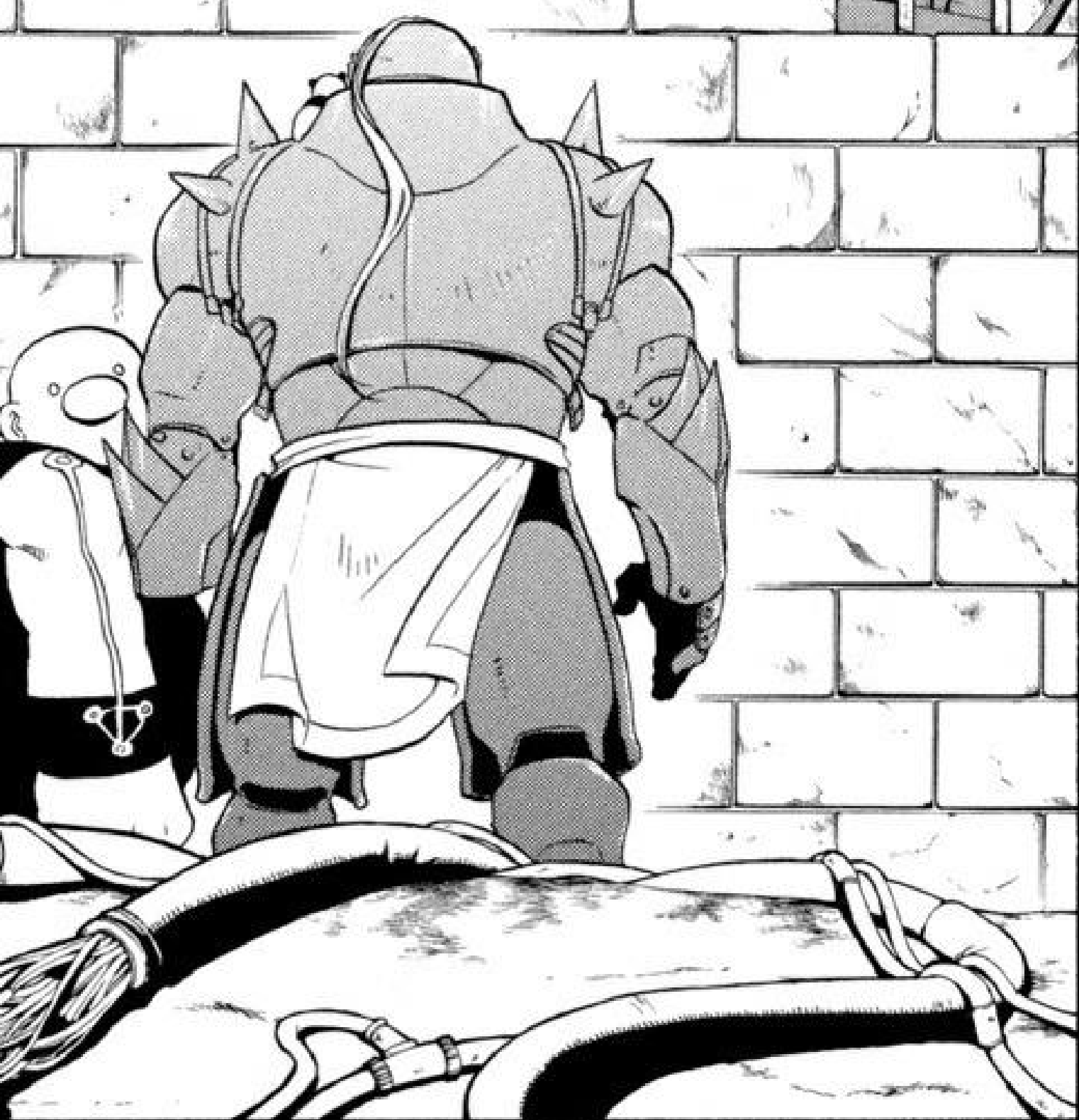


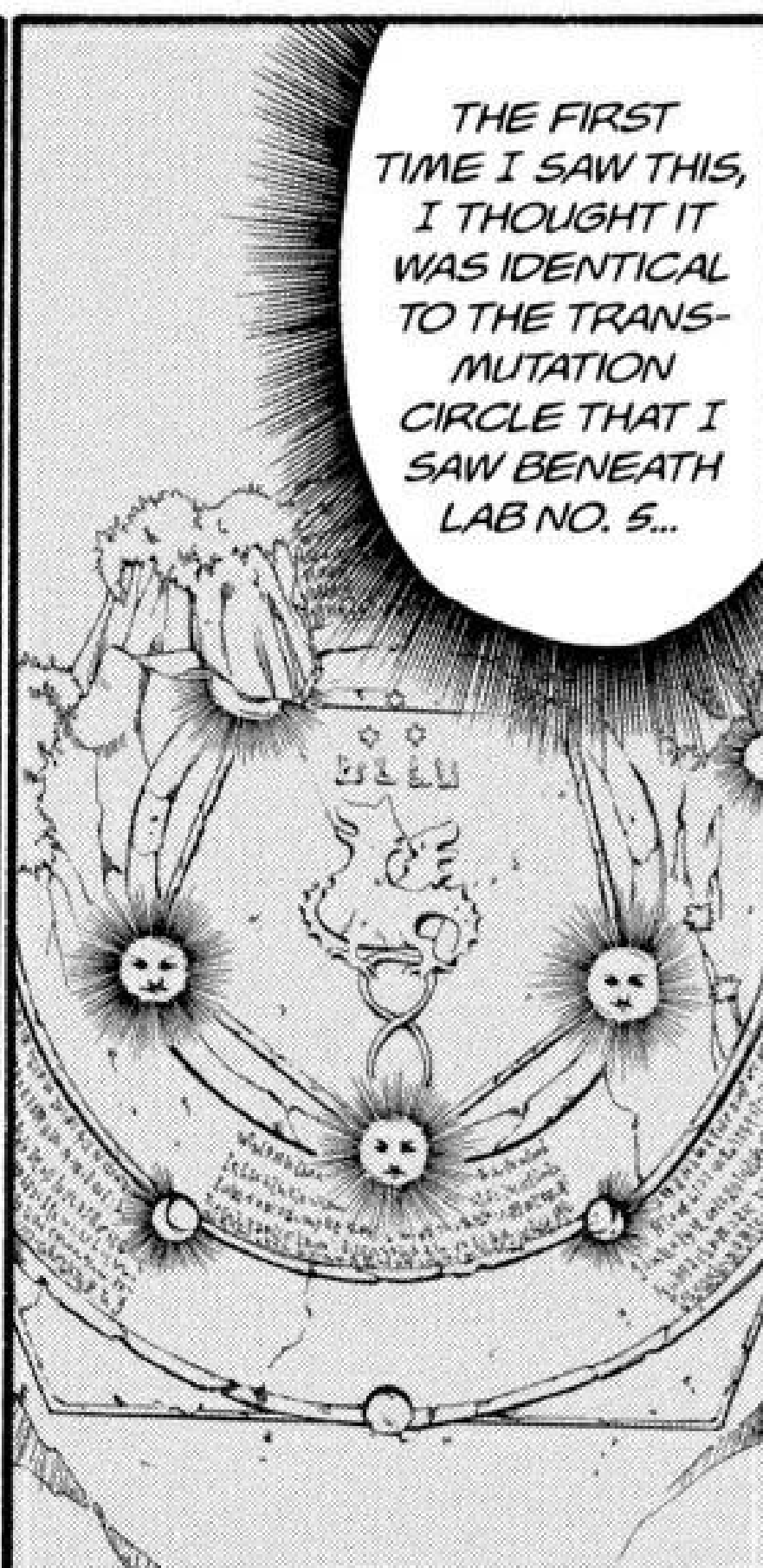
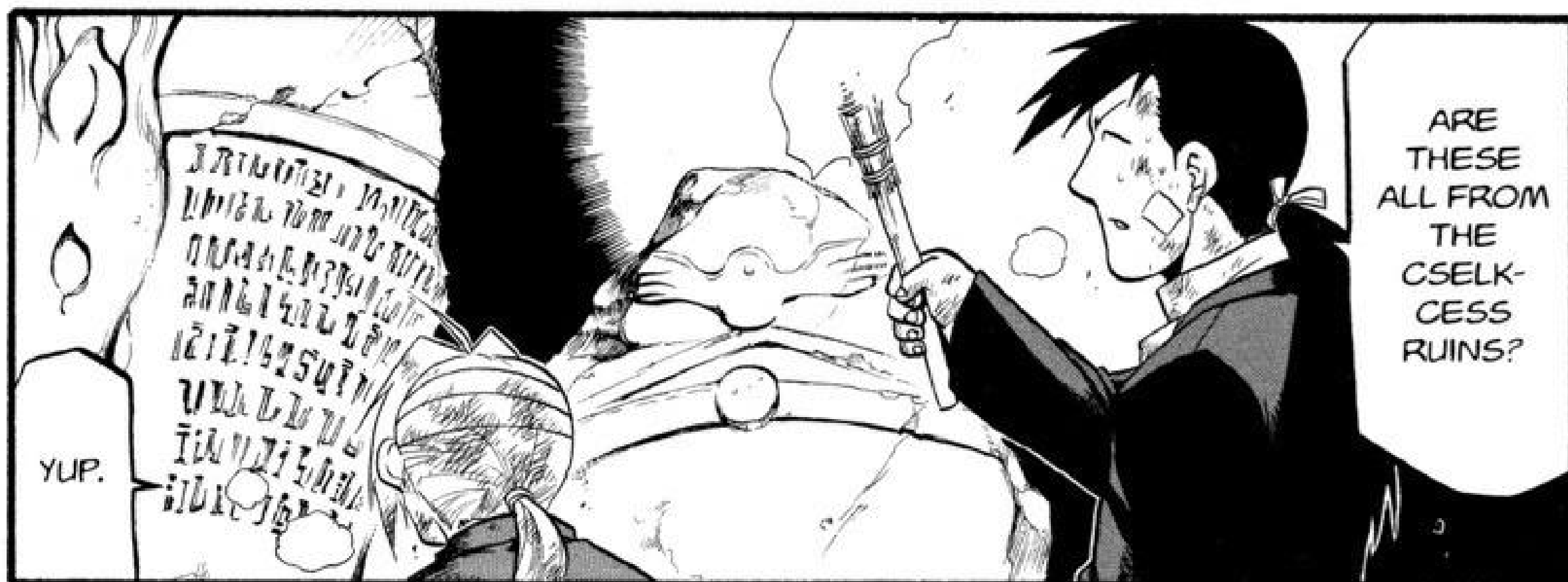
THAT
WOMAN
YOU
MUR-
DERED...

...DIED
WITH
HER
PRIDE
INTACT,
DIDN'T
SHE?









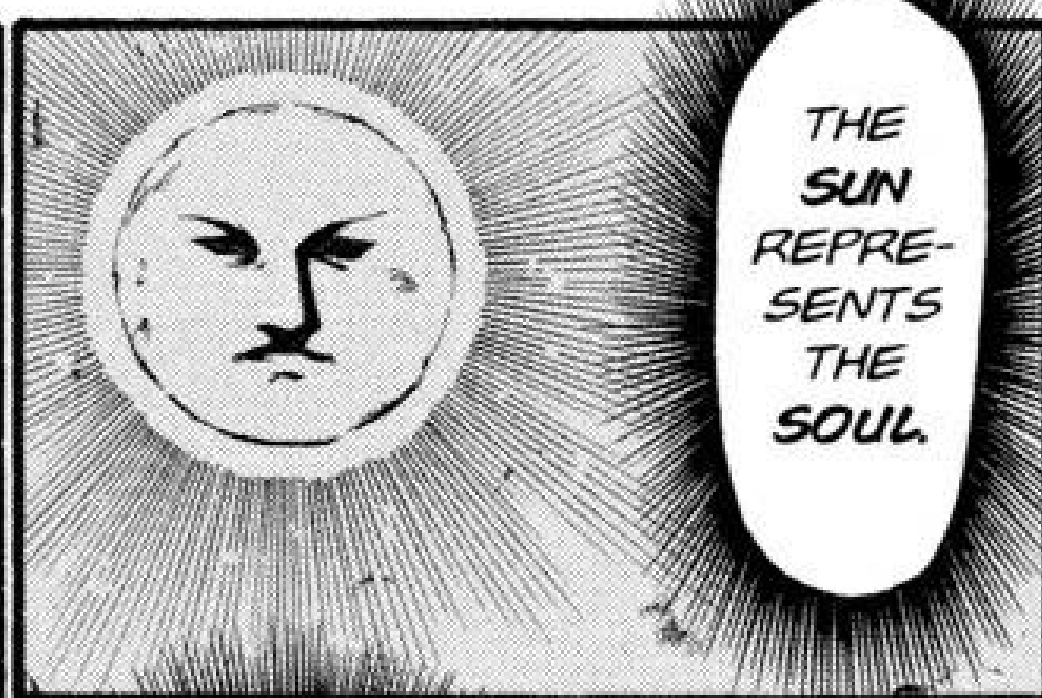


HEY, HEY!
SO, WHEN
ARE YOU
GOING TO
SHARE
YOUR BIG
SECRET?

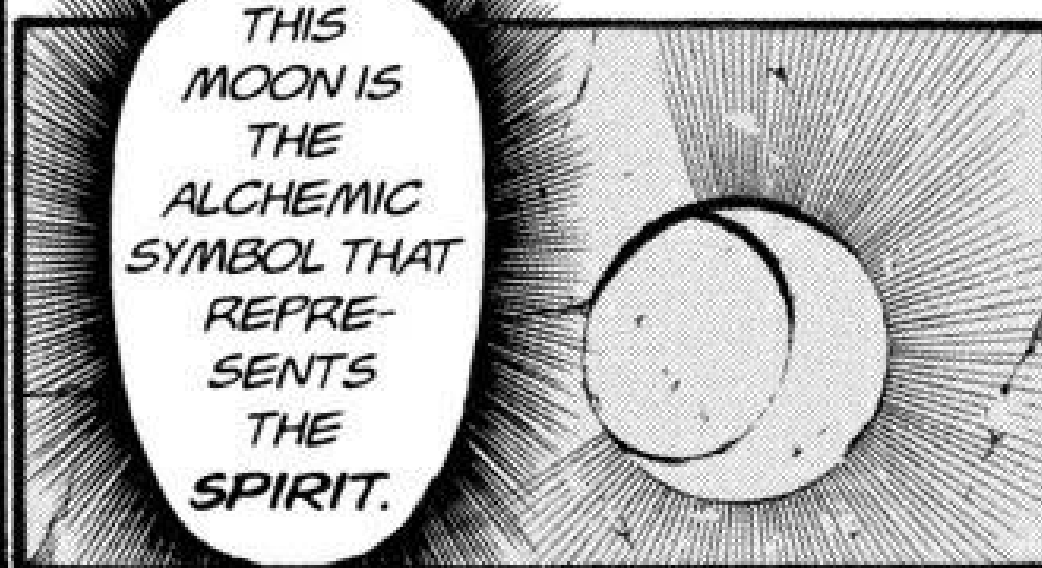
...AND THE
BODY IS
REPRE-
SENTED
BY THE
MURAL
ITSELF...

STONE
IS THE
SYMBOL
FOR THE
PHYSICAL
BODY...

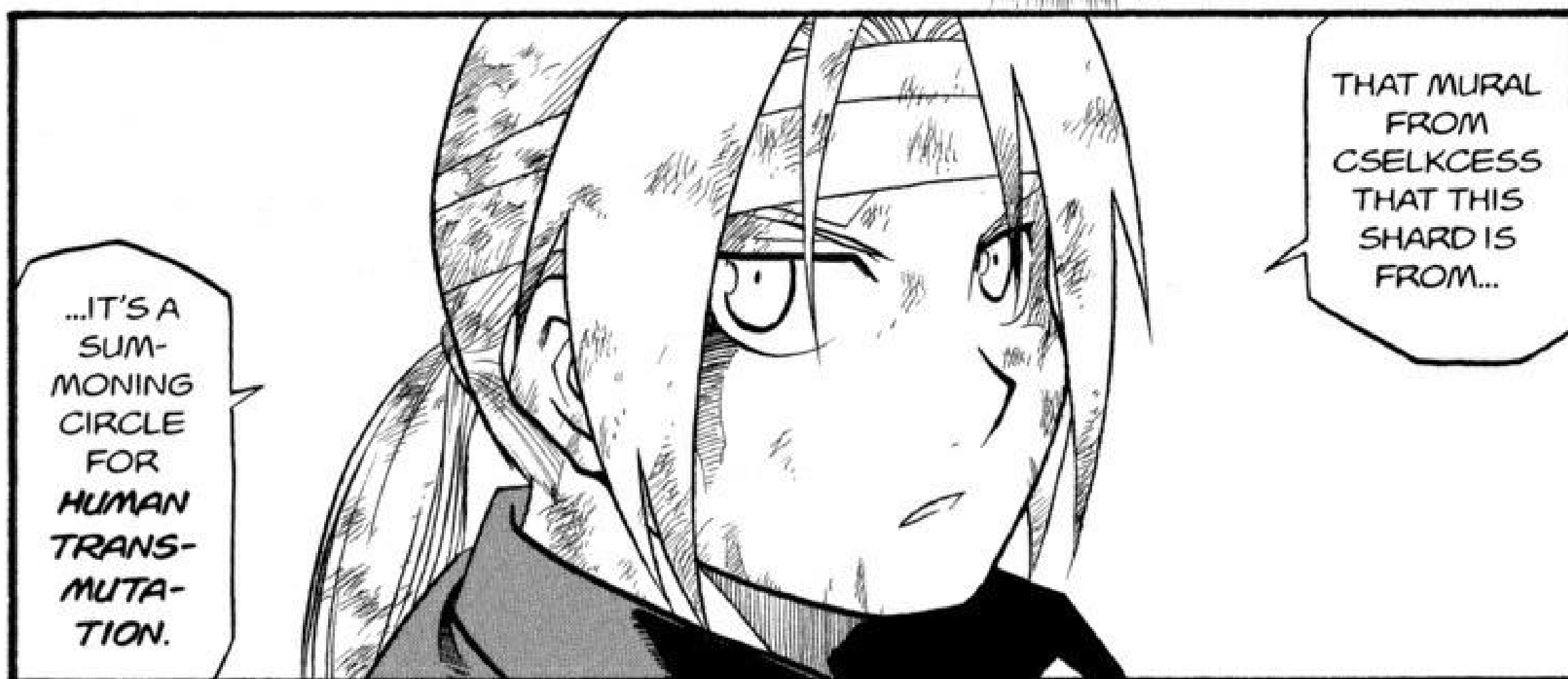
MUTTER
MUTTER



THE
SUN
REPRE-
SENTS
THE
SOUL.



THIS
MOON IS
THE
ALCHEMIC
SYMBOL THAT
REPRE-
SENTS
THE
SPIRIT.



...IT'S A
SUM-
MONING
CIRCLE
FOR
HUMAN
TRANS-
MUTA-
TION.

THAT MURAL
FROM
CSELKCESS
THAT THIS
SHARD IS
FROM...



SO
THAT'S
WHEN
I GOT
AN
IDEA.

ORDI-
NARY...
?

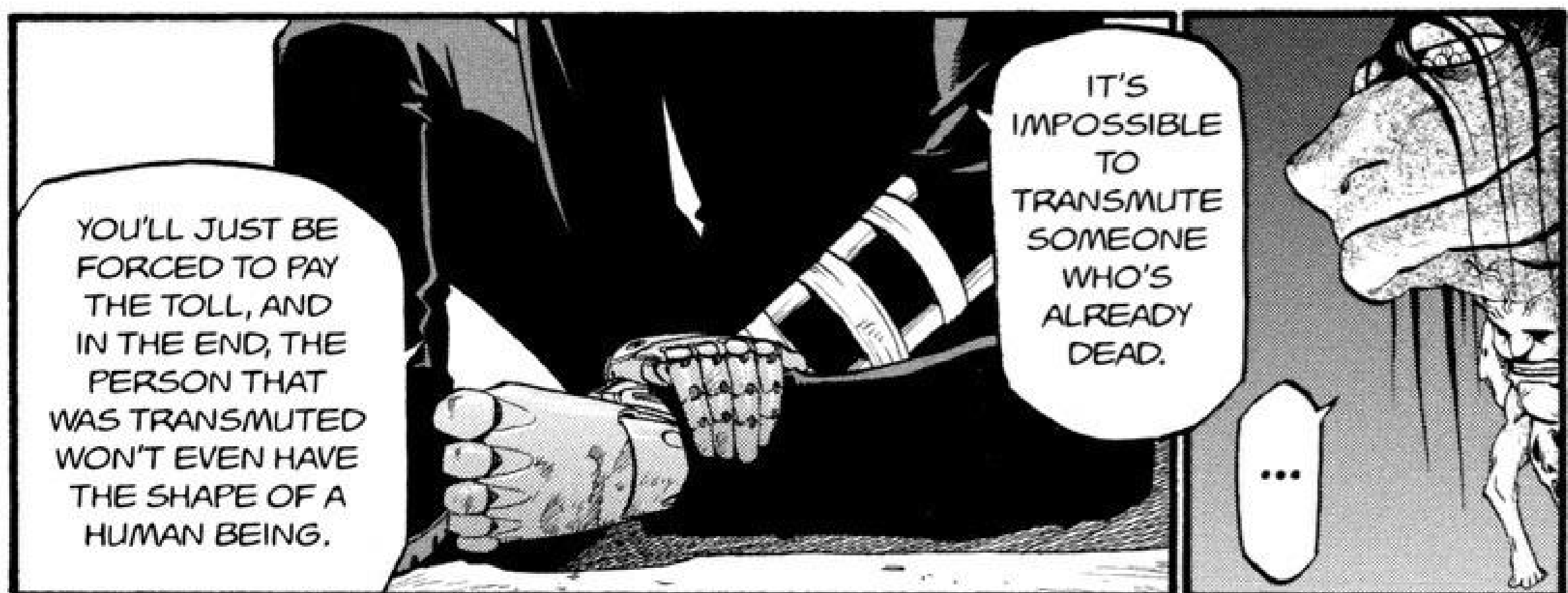


THE MISSING
PIECE, WHICH
WOULD SERVE
AS THE BASE OF
THE CIRCLE IS
AN ORDINARY
HUMAN
BEING.

HUH
?



WHAT
IF I
TRANSMUTE
A LIVING
HUMAN
BEING?



YOU'LL JUST BE
FORCED TO PAY
THE TOLL, AND
IN THE END, THE
PERSON THAT
WAS TRANSMUTED
WON'T EVEN HAVE
THE SHAPE OF A
HUMAN BEING.

IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE
TO
TRANSMUTE
SOMEONE
WHO'S
ALREADY
DEAD.

...



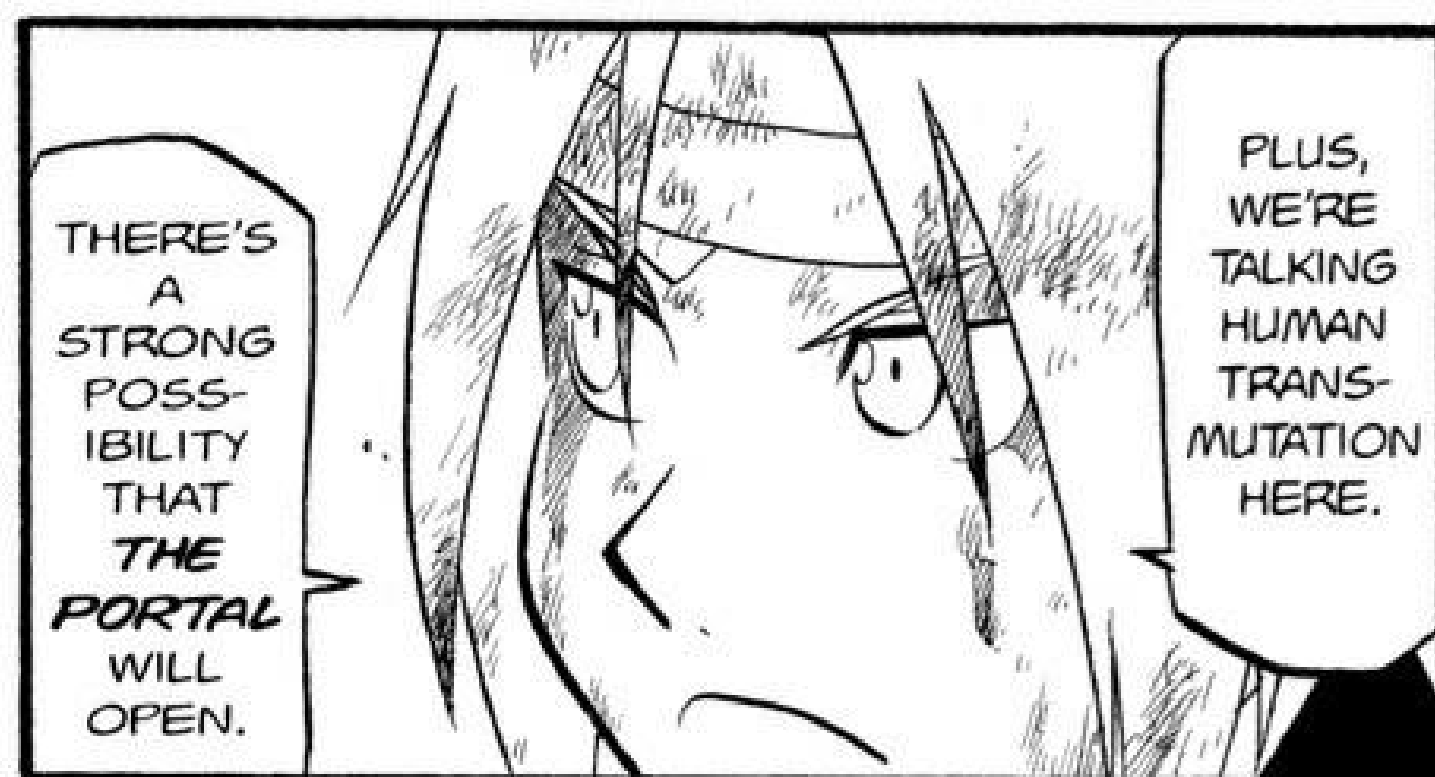
UH-
HUH.

USING
THE LOGIC
OF WATER
FROM
WATER
AND IRON
FROM
IRON.

YOU'RE
GOING TO
TRANS-
MUTE
SOME-
THING
THAT
ALREADY
EXISTS?



BUT IF
THE ONE
WHO IS
TRANS-
MUTED
ISN'T
DEAD...



THERE'S
A
STRONG
POSS-
IBILITY
THAT
THE
PORTAL
WILL
OPEN.

PLUS,
WE'RE
TALKING
HUMAN
TRANS-
MUTATION
HERE.

WHAT
IF I
**TRANS-
MUTED**
MYSELF
?



...THEN YOU GUYS JUMP THROUGH IT.

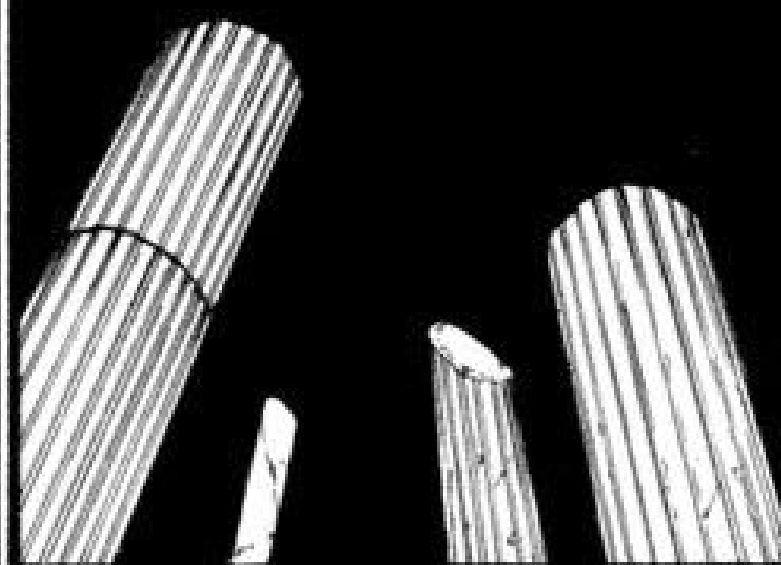
I'LL OPEN THE PORTAL...

IF GLUTTONY IS A **FALSE PORTAL OF TRUTH**, THEN IF WE GO THROUGH THE **REAL PORTAL**, MAYBE WE CAN GET BACK TO THE RIGHT DIMENSION.



THERE'LL BE A **RE-BOUND**.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU FAIL?



IN THIS CASE THAT WOULD BE...

...ME.

A FAILED TRANS-MUTATION IS DEFLECTED BACK TOWARDS THE ONE WHO INITIATED IT.



WHAT IS IT?

NOW, THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO ASK YOU BEFORE WE GET OUT OF HERE, ENVY.

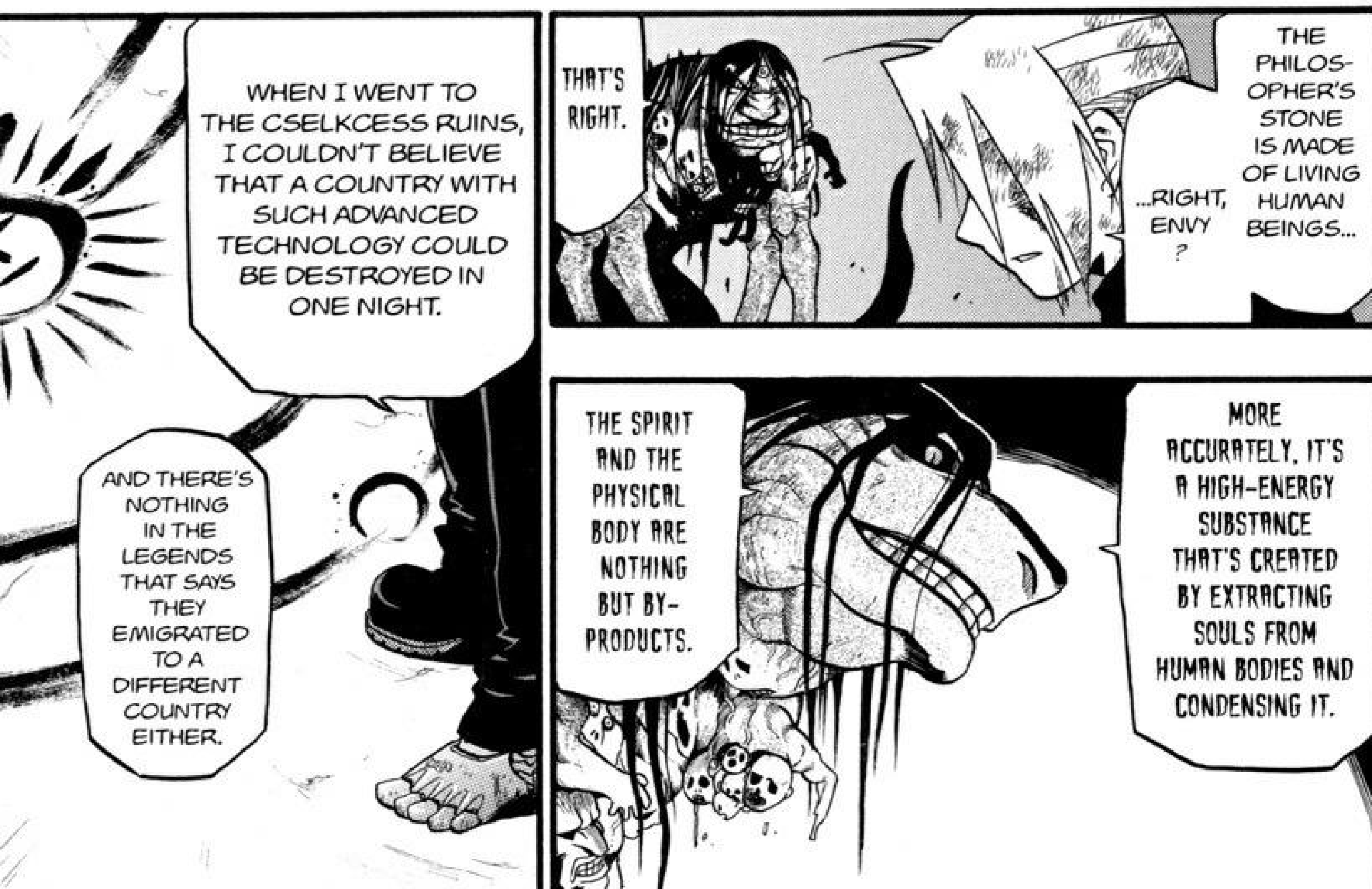
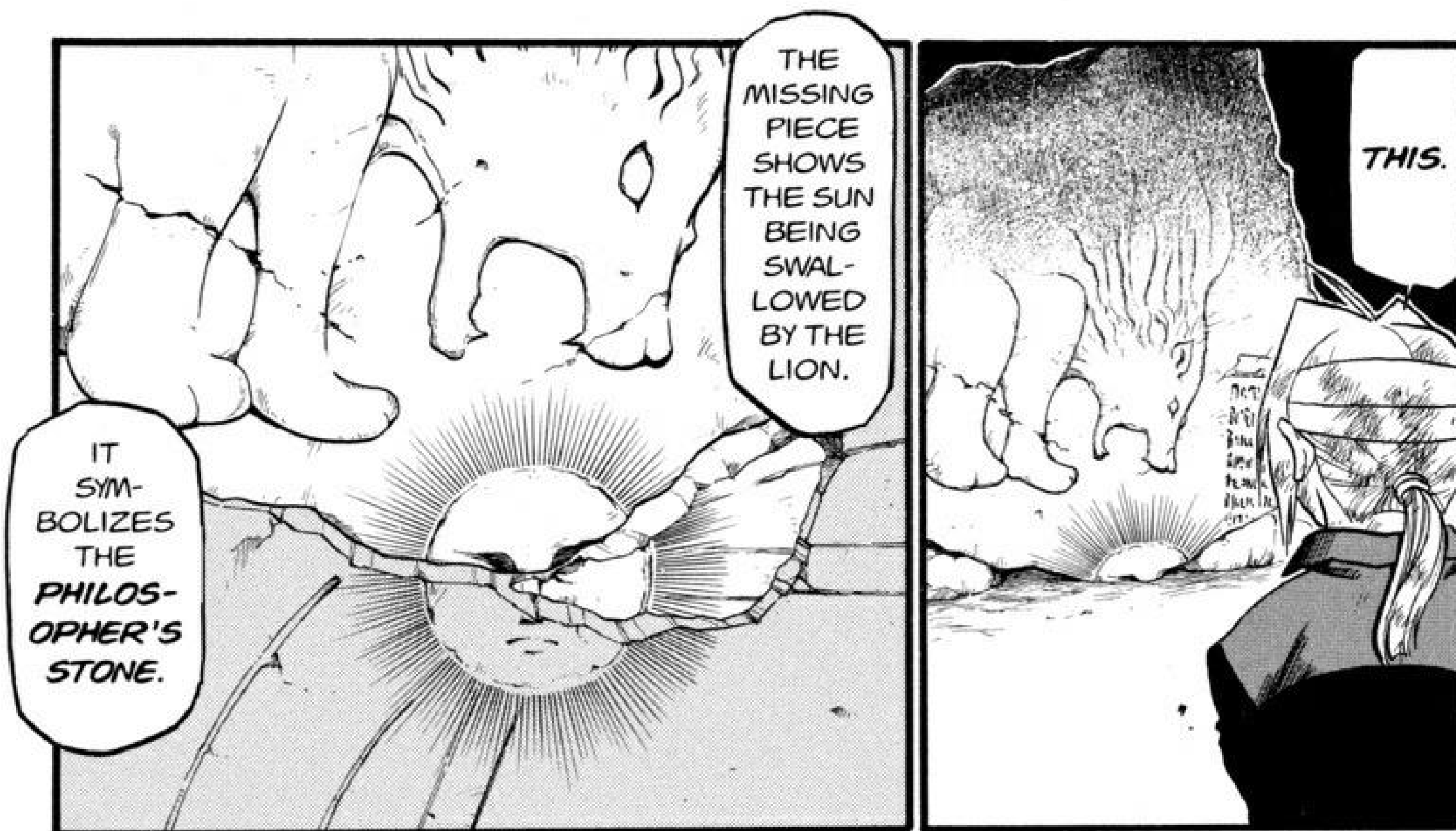


I'M LEAVING THIS UP TO YOU.

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT AL-CHEMY.



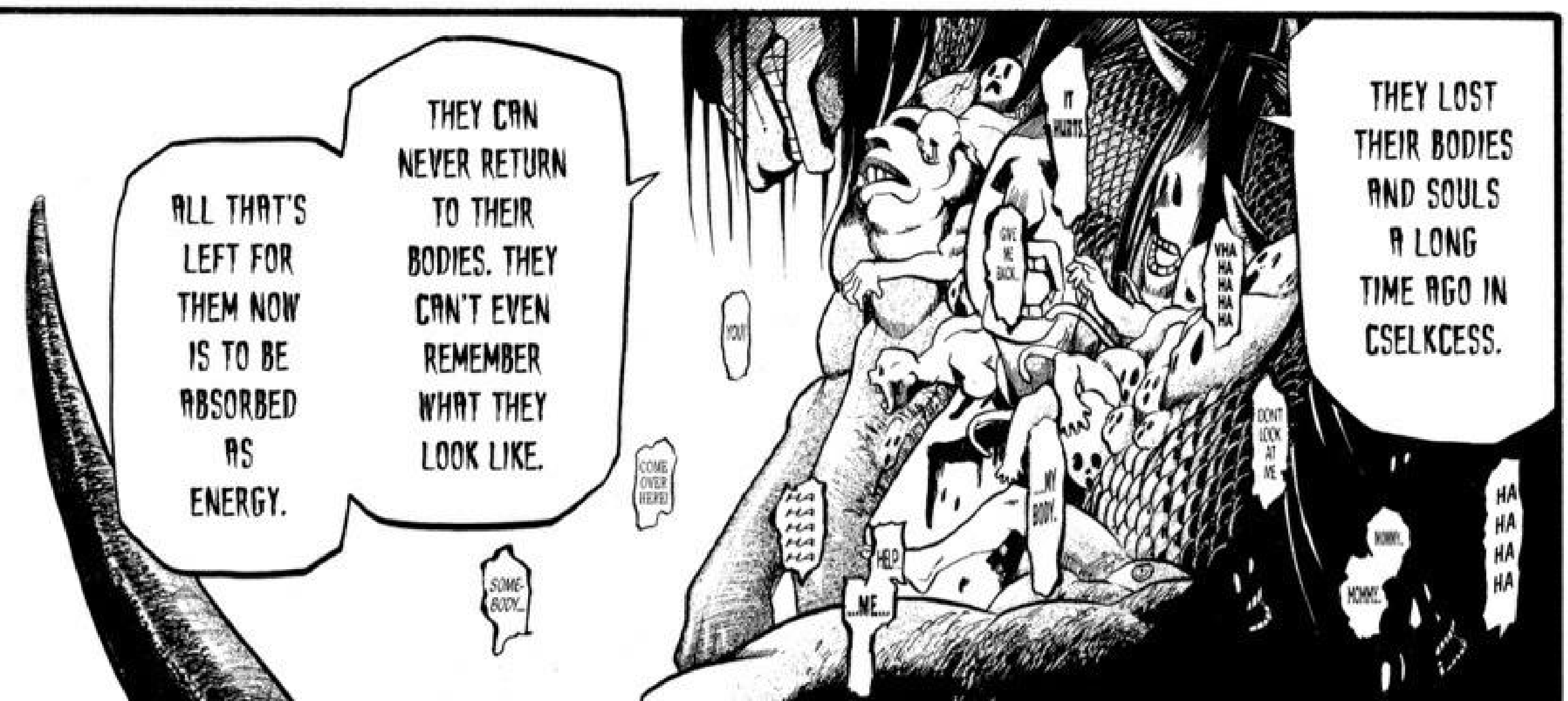
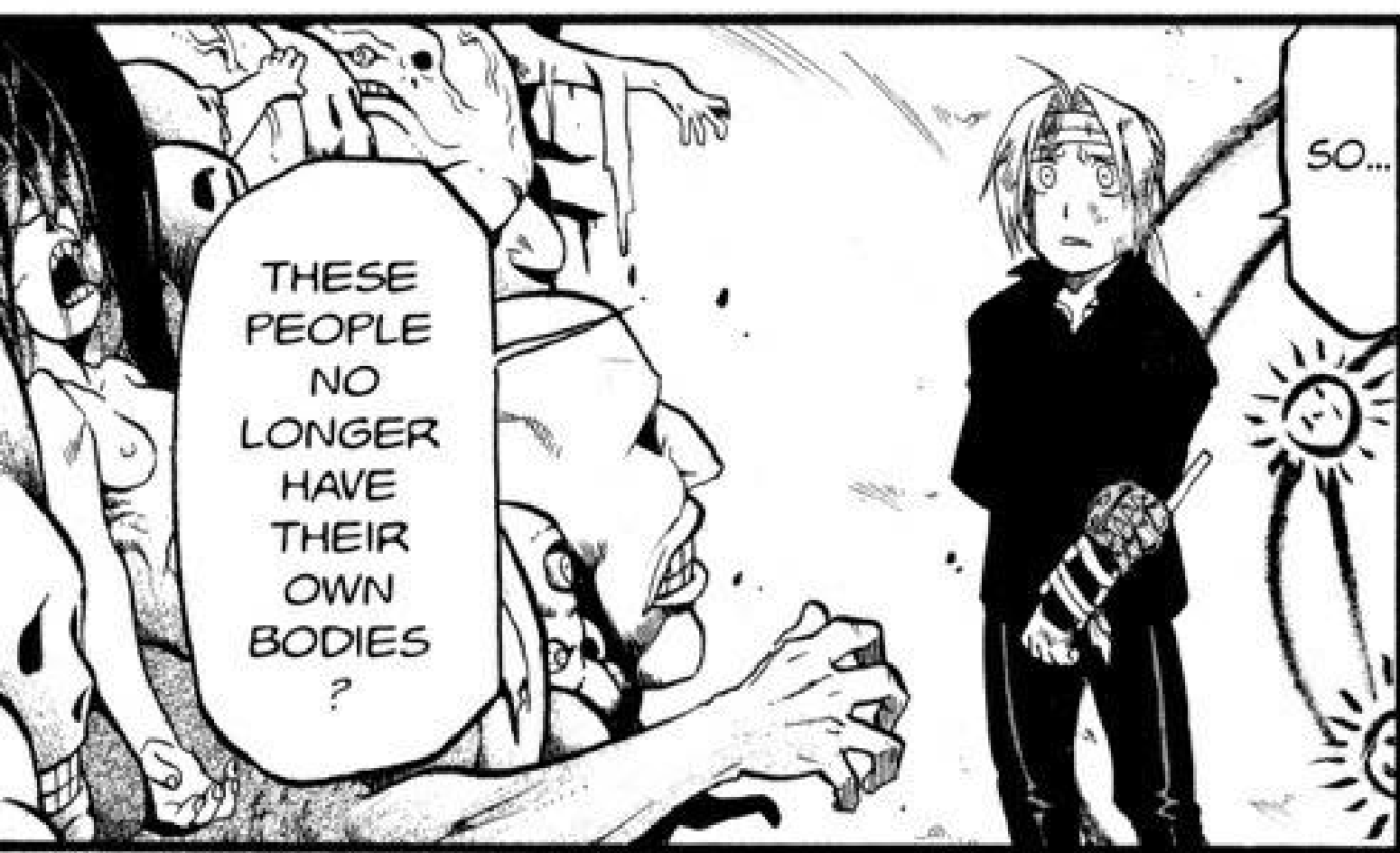














THESE SOULS
CAN NEVER
GO BACK TO
BEING HUMAN.



YOU MUST
THINK ABOUT THIS
SCIENTIFICALLY.
DON'T LET YOUR
EMOTIONS GET
IN THE WAY.



IF ANYTHING HAPPENS
TO ME, YOU HAVE TO
LET PEOPLE ON THE
OUTSIDE KNOW THAT
THESE GUYS ARE
PLANNING TO USE THIS
COUNTRY FOR SOME
DARK PURPOSE.

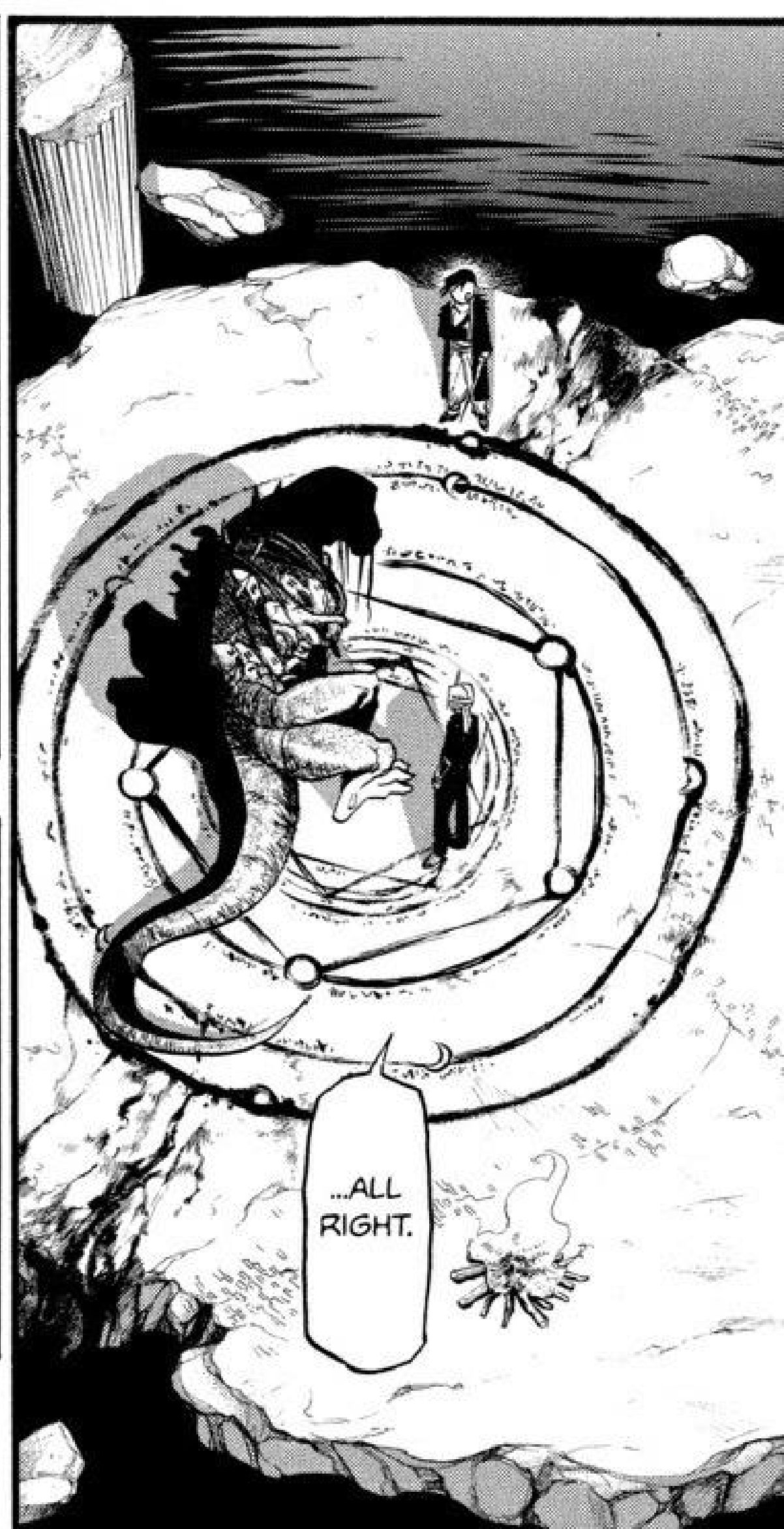
LIN.



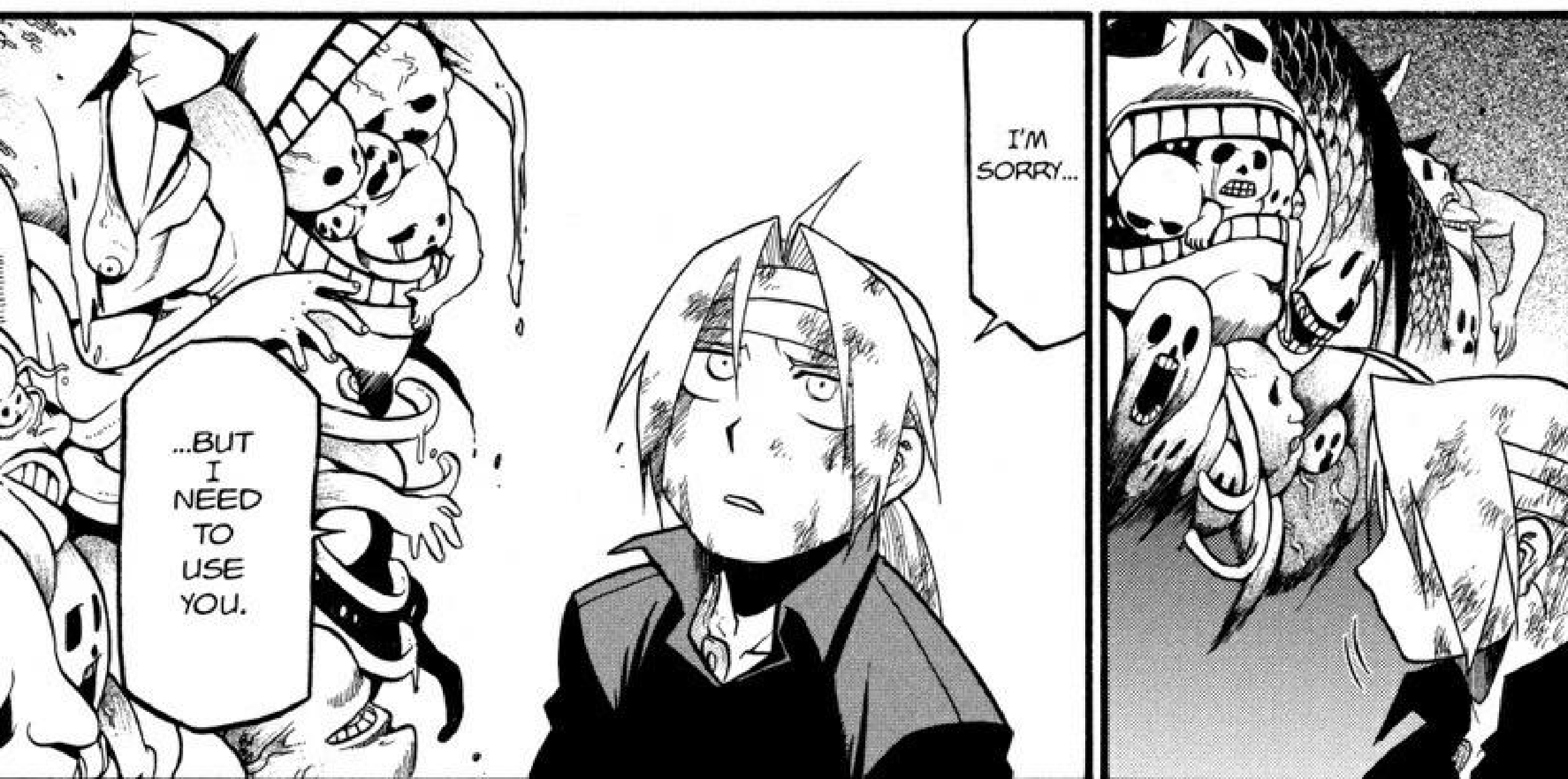
IT'S NOT
LIKE I
EVEN CARE
WHAT
HAPPENS.

HUUUH?
AMESTRIS
ISN'T MY
COUNTRY.

WHY
YOU...

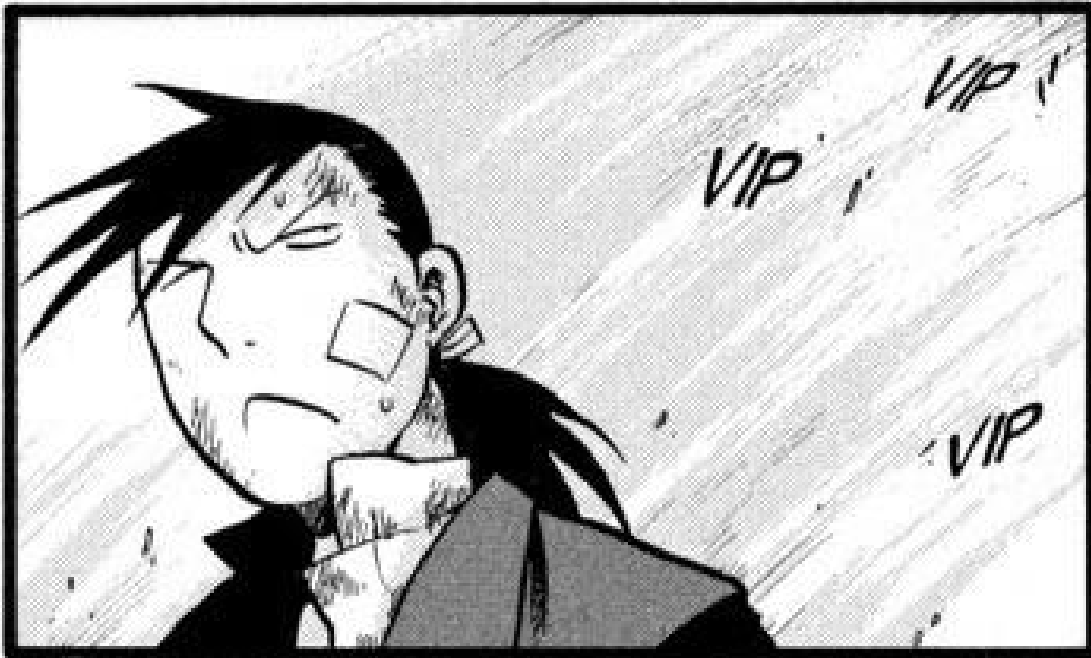


...ALL
RIGHT.

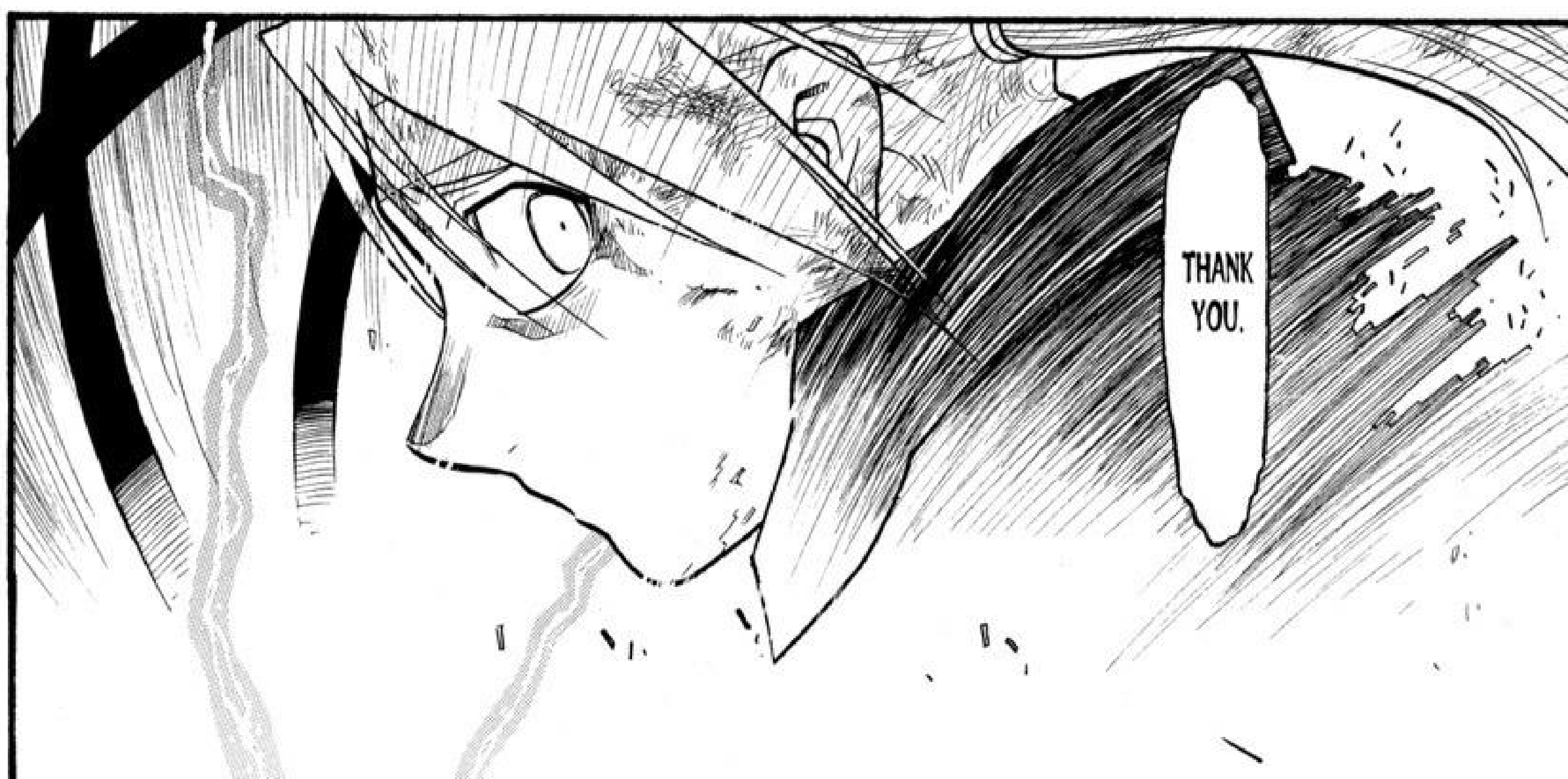
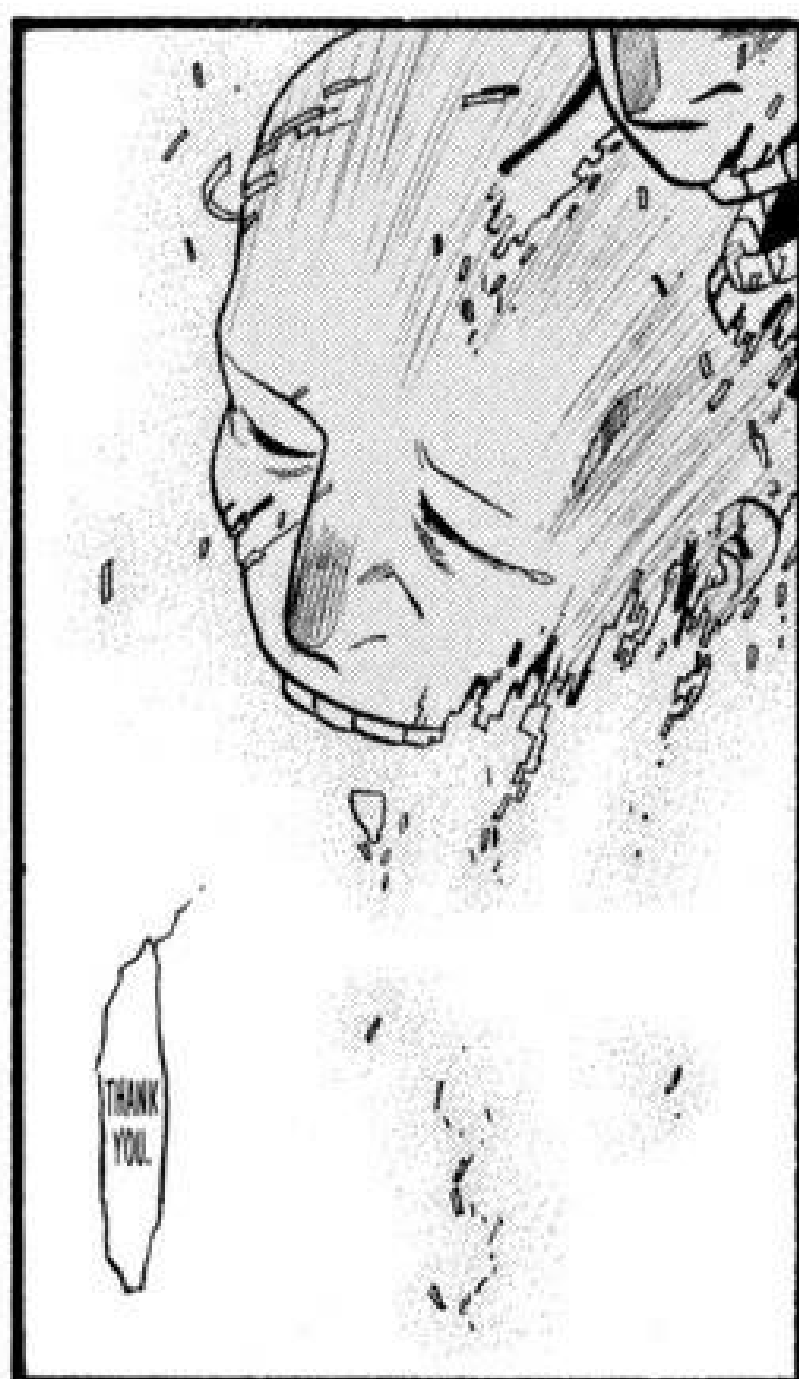


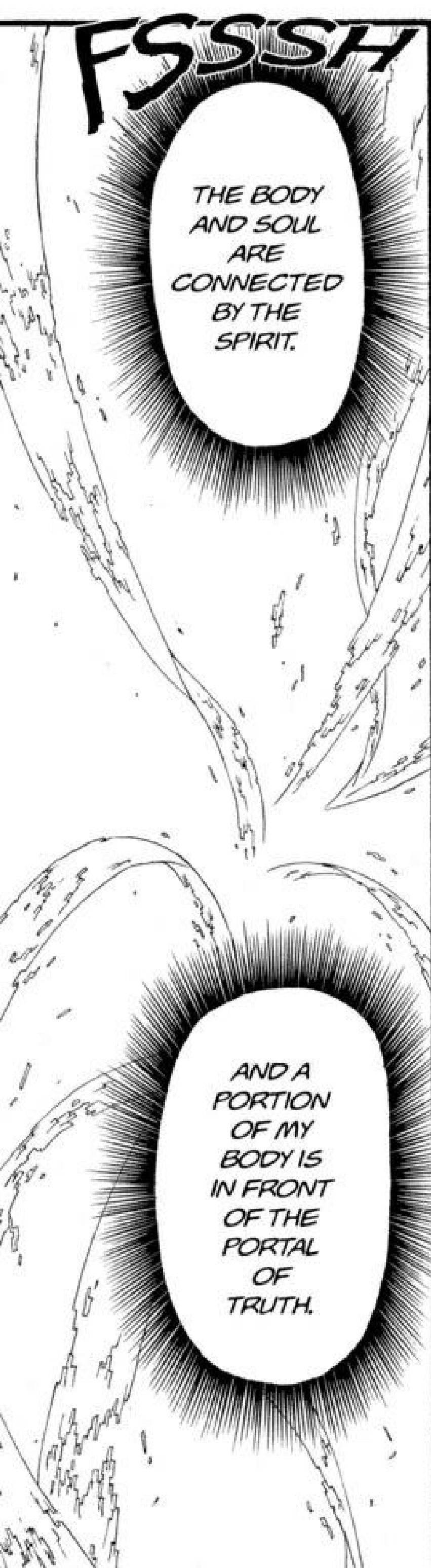


IT ALMOST LOOKS LIKE HE'S PRAYING...

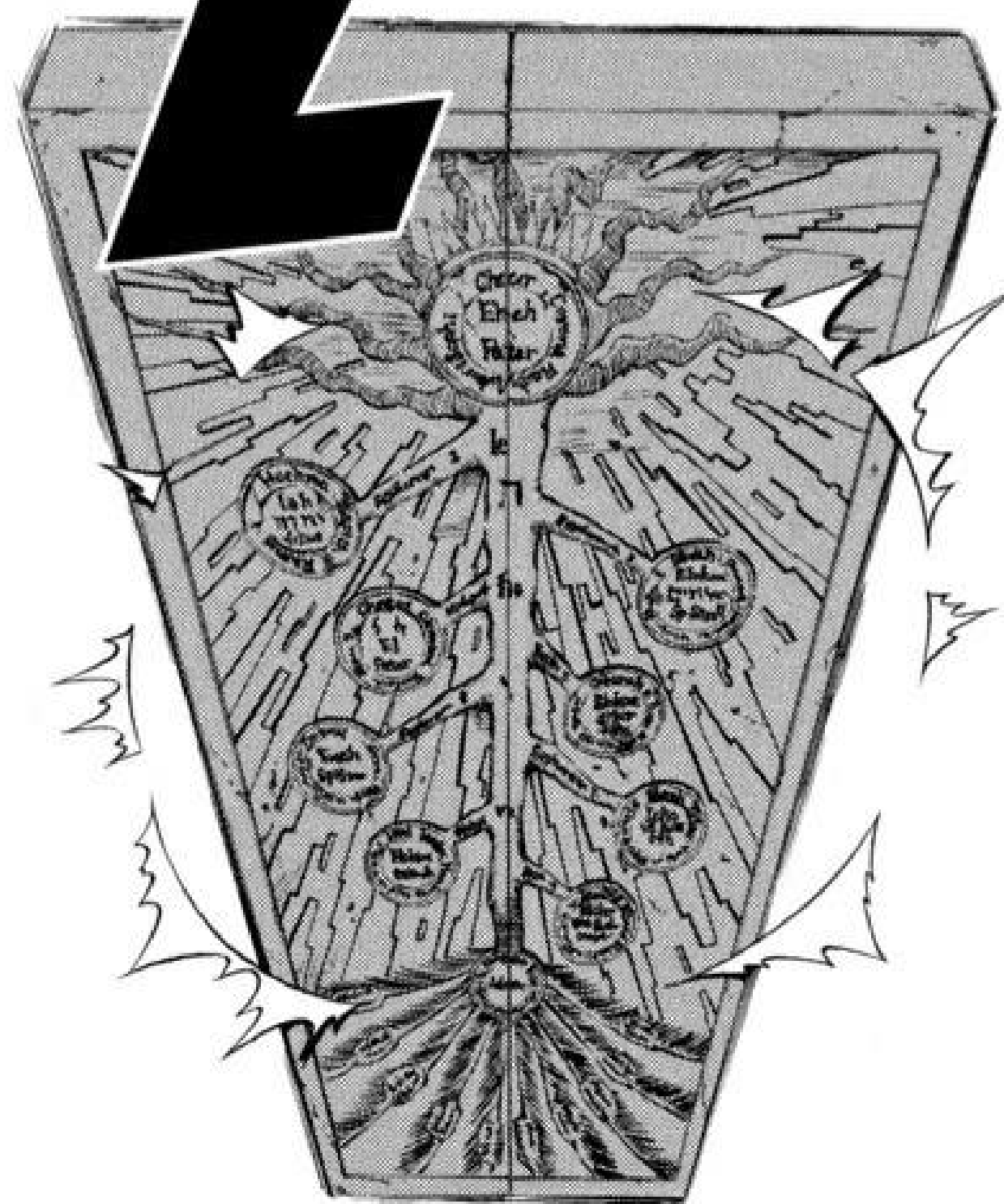








S



AM



THEN
THERE'S
NO
POINT
IN
STRUG-
GLING.

THE SOUL
IS THE
SIGNPOST.
SURRENDER
MYSELF
TO MY
SOUL
AND GO
WITH THE
FLOW...



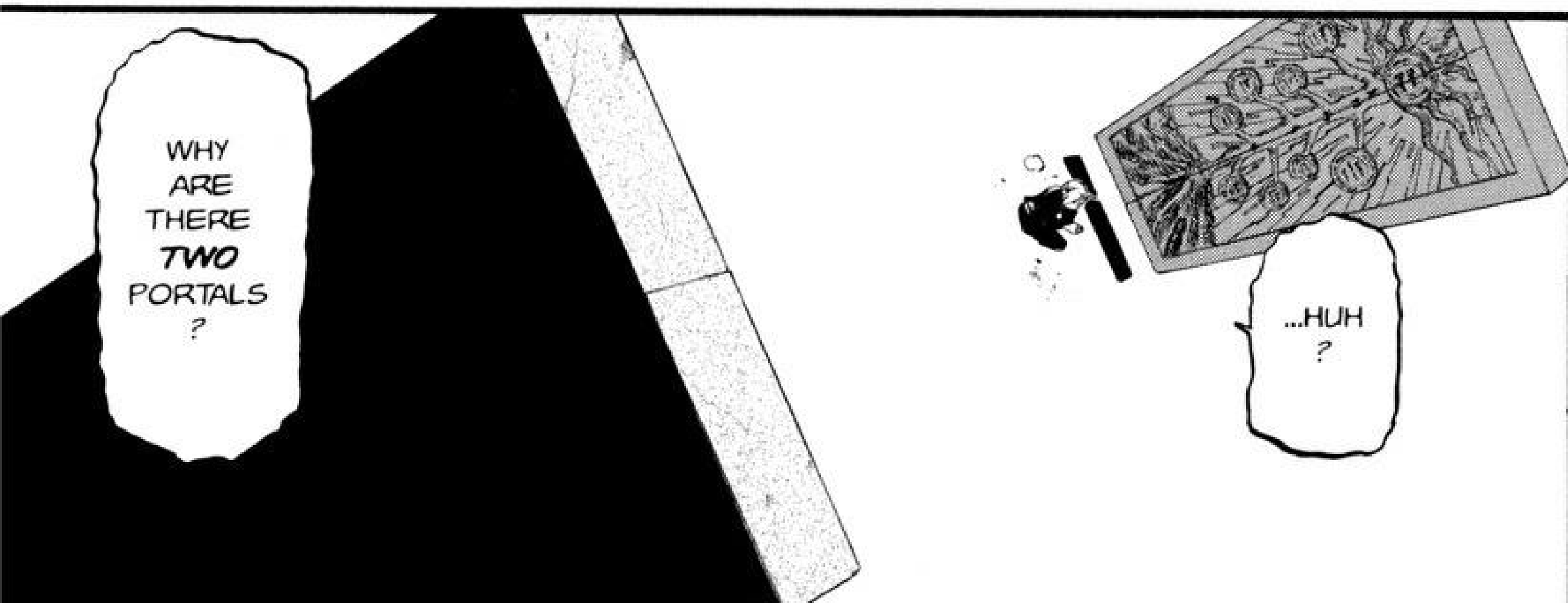
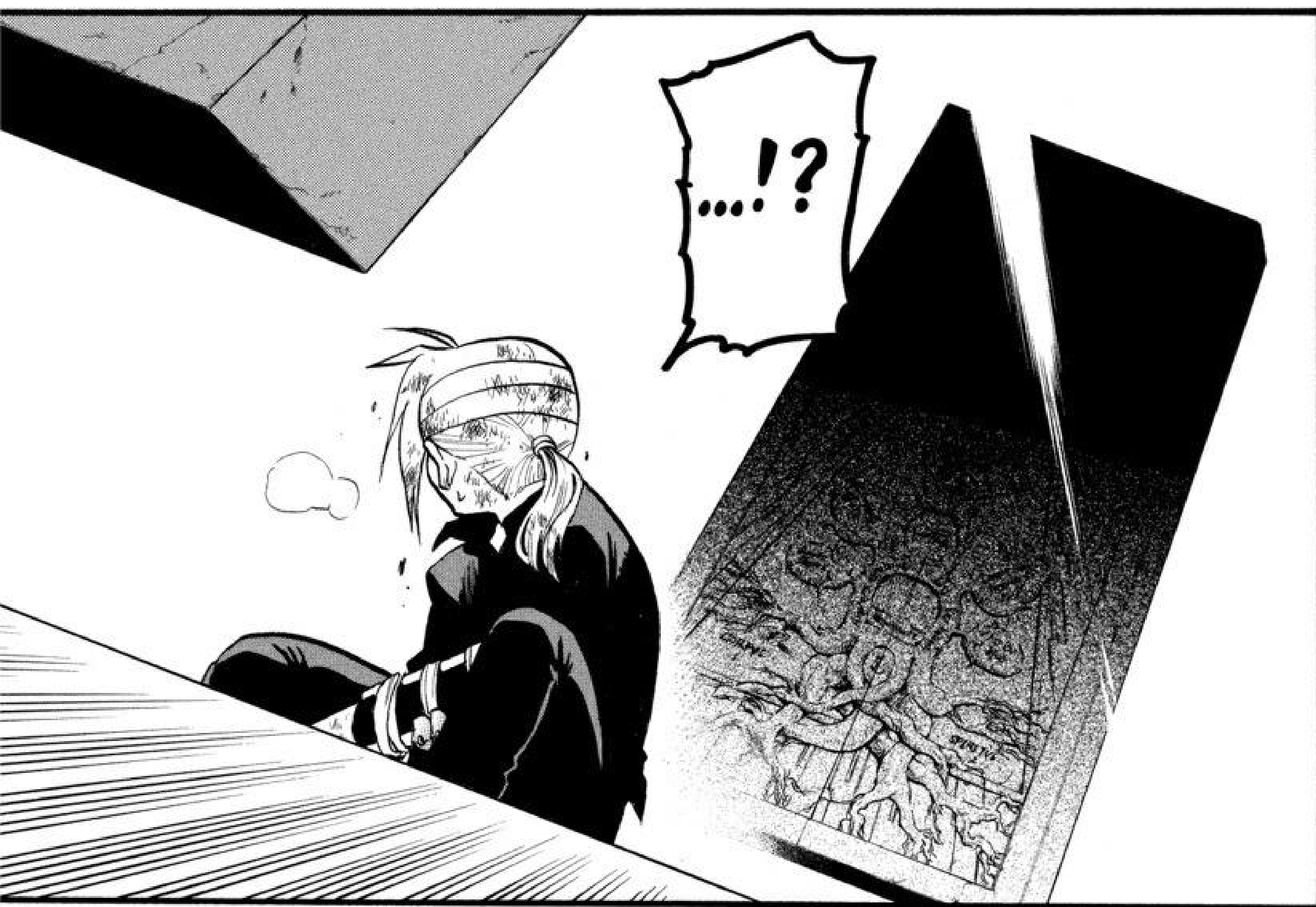
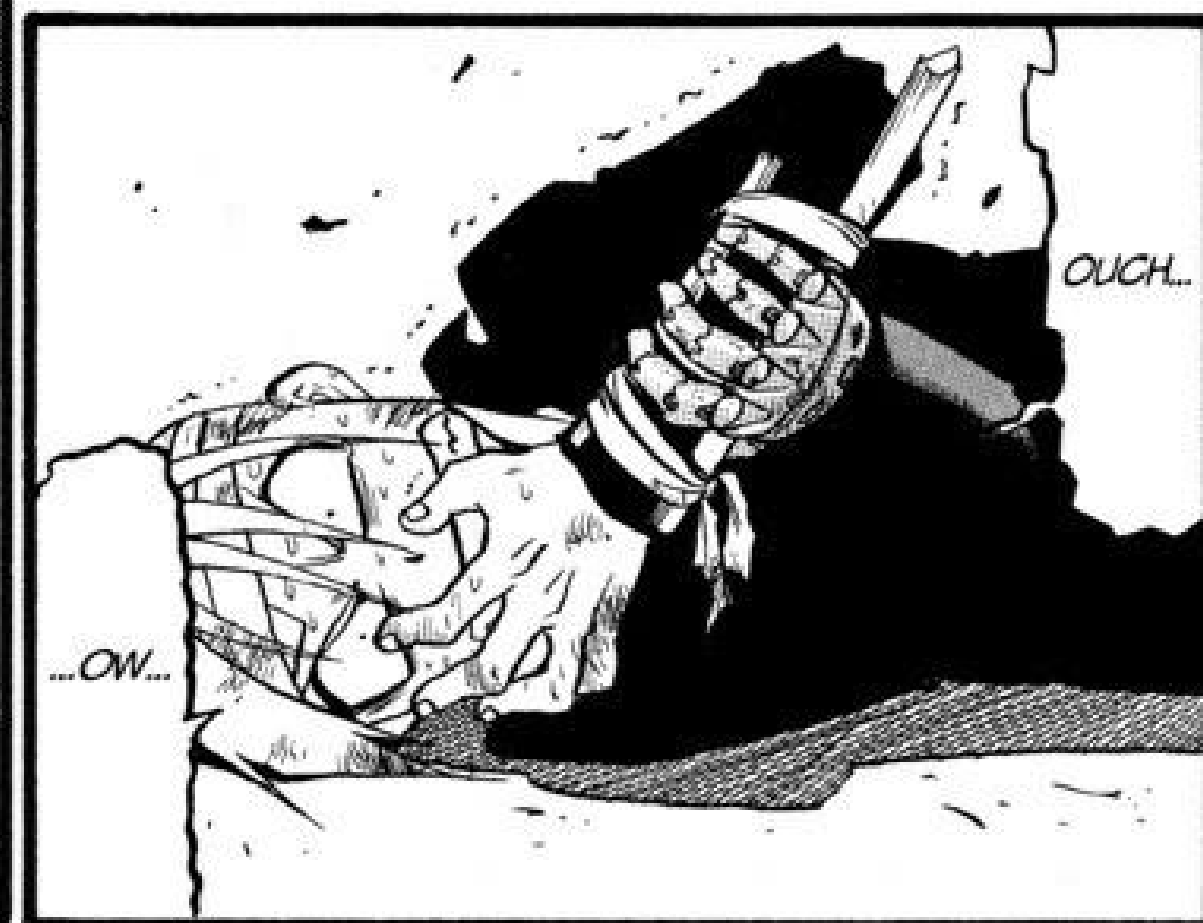
HM....

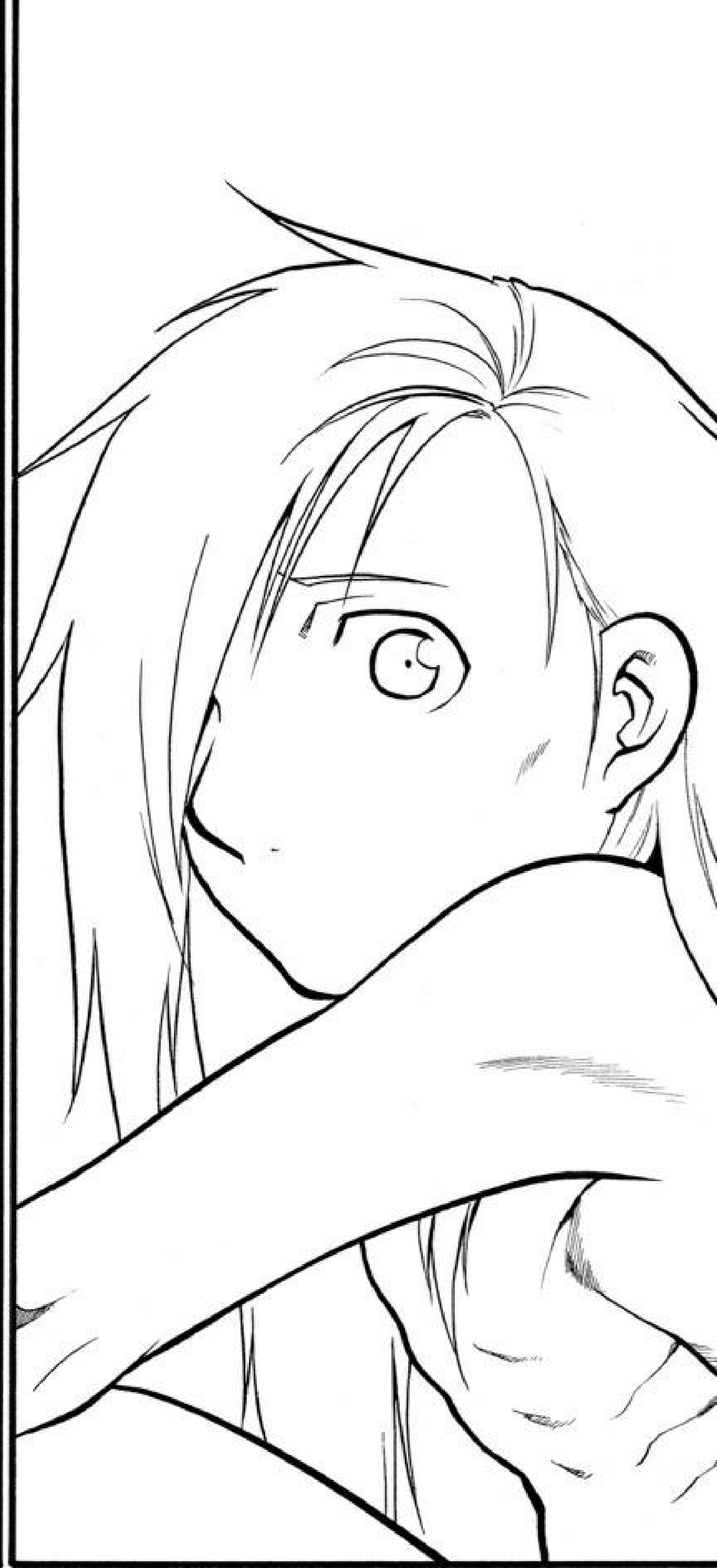
TO
THE
PORTAL
!!



BA-BUMP

SO YOU
DIDN'T
COME
HERE
TO GET
THAT
BODY
BACK?



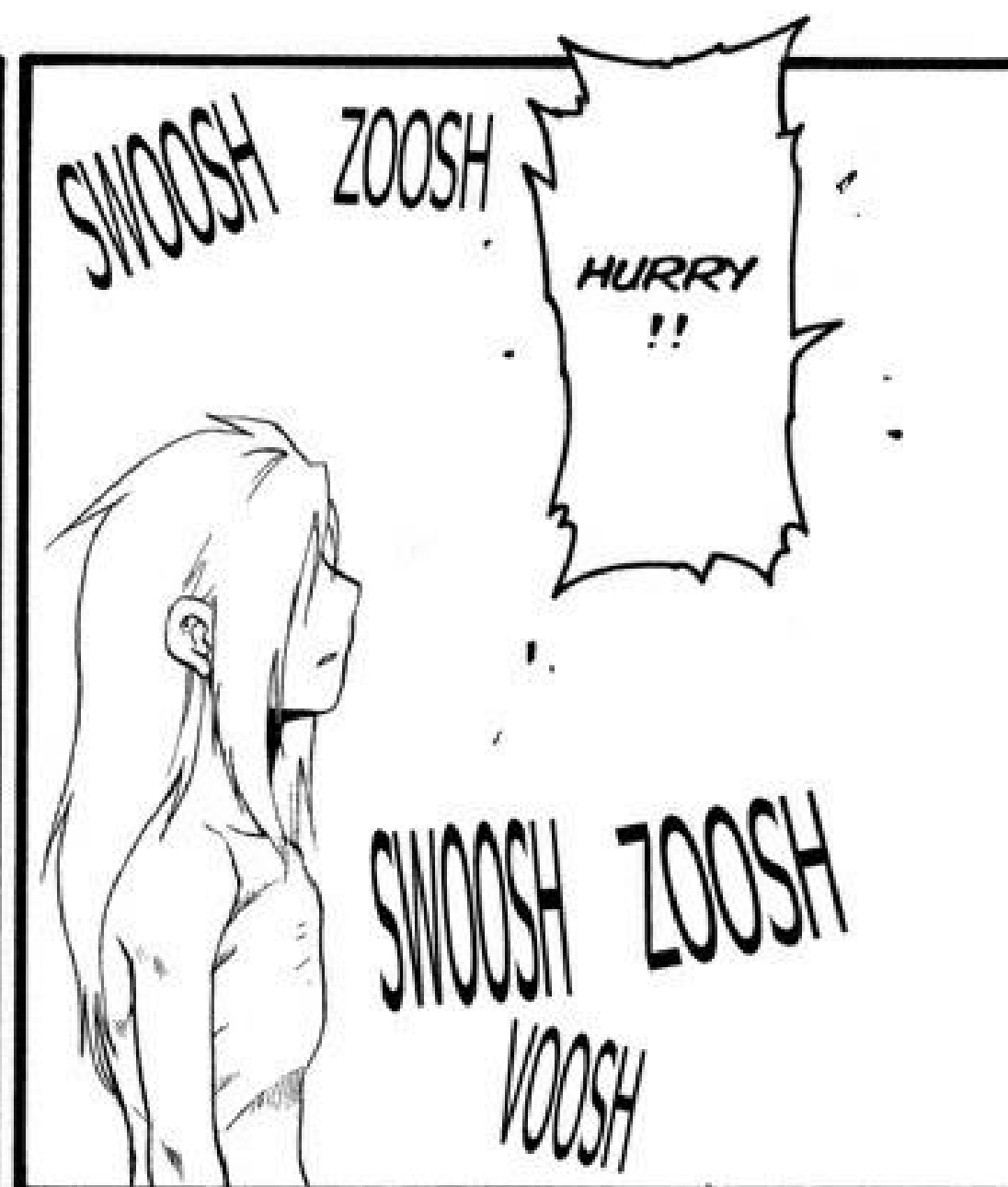


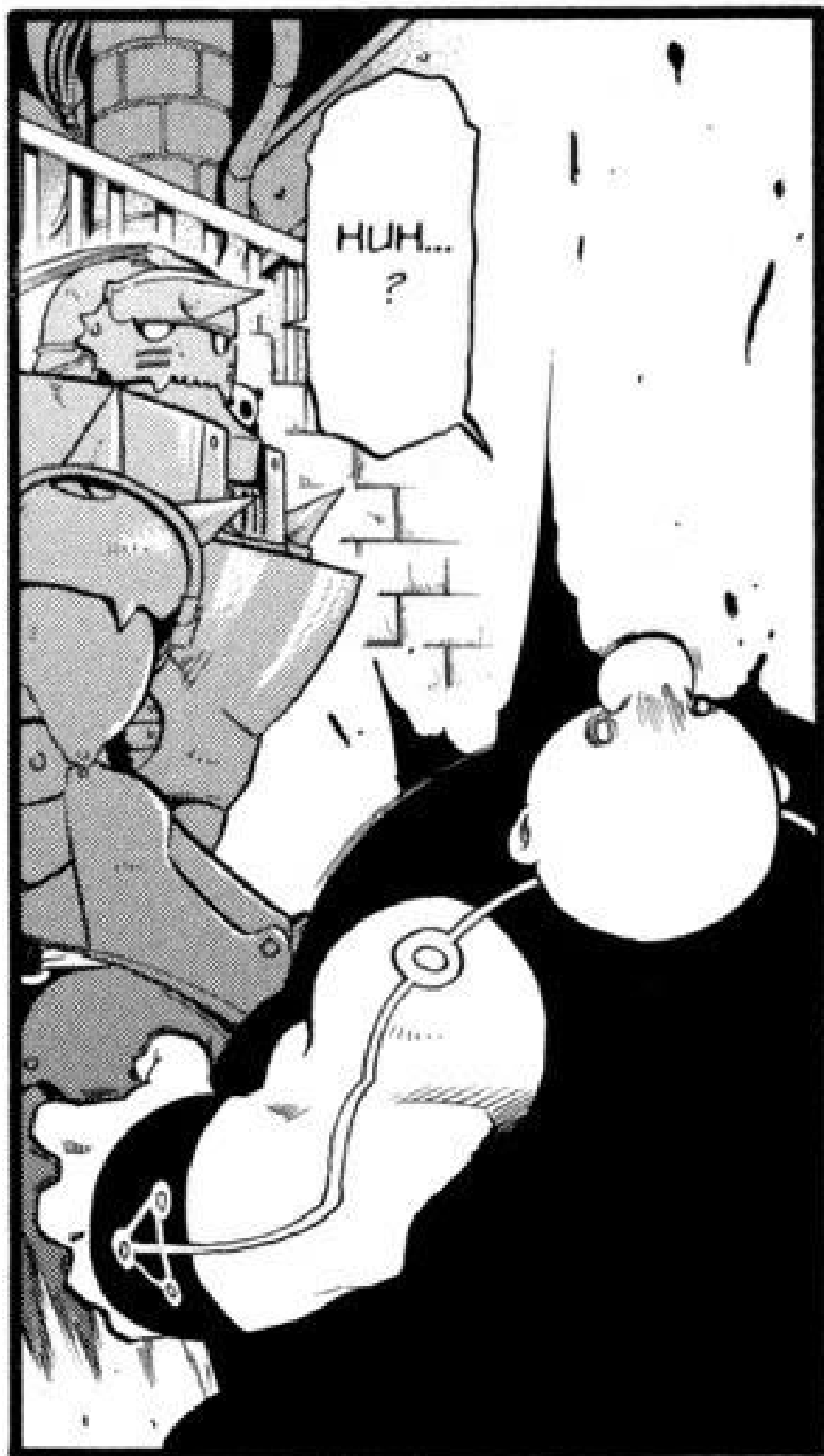
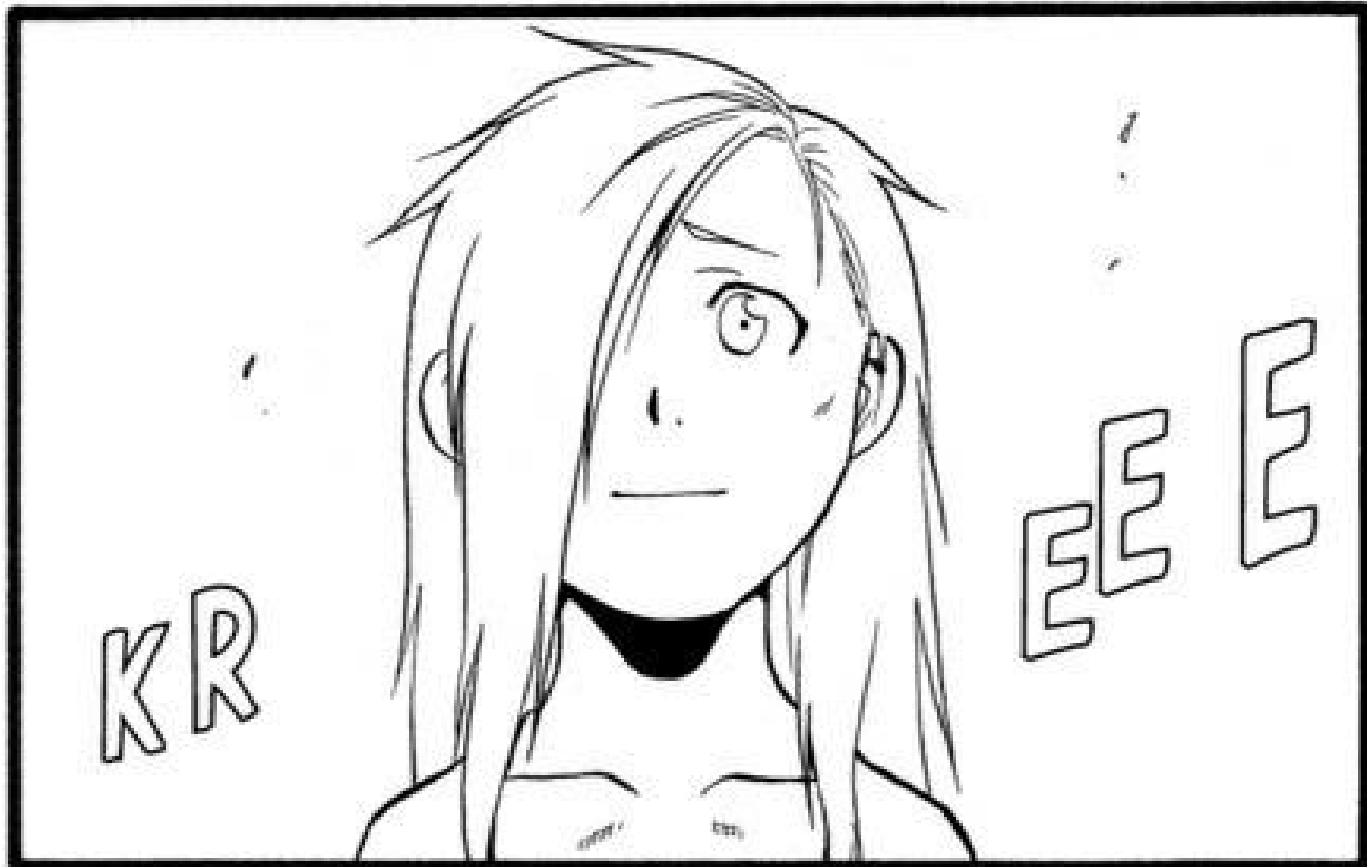


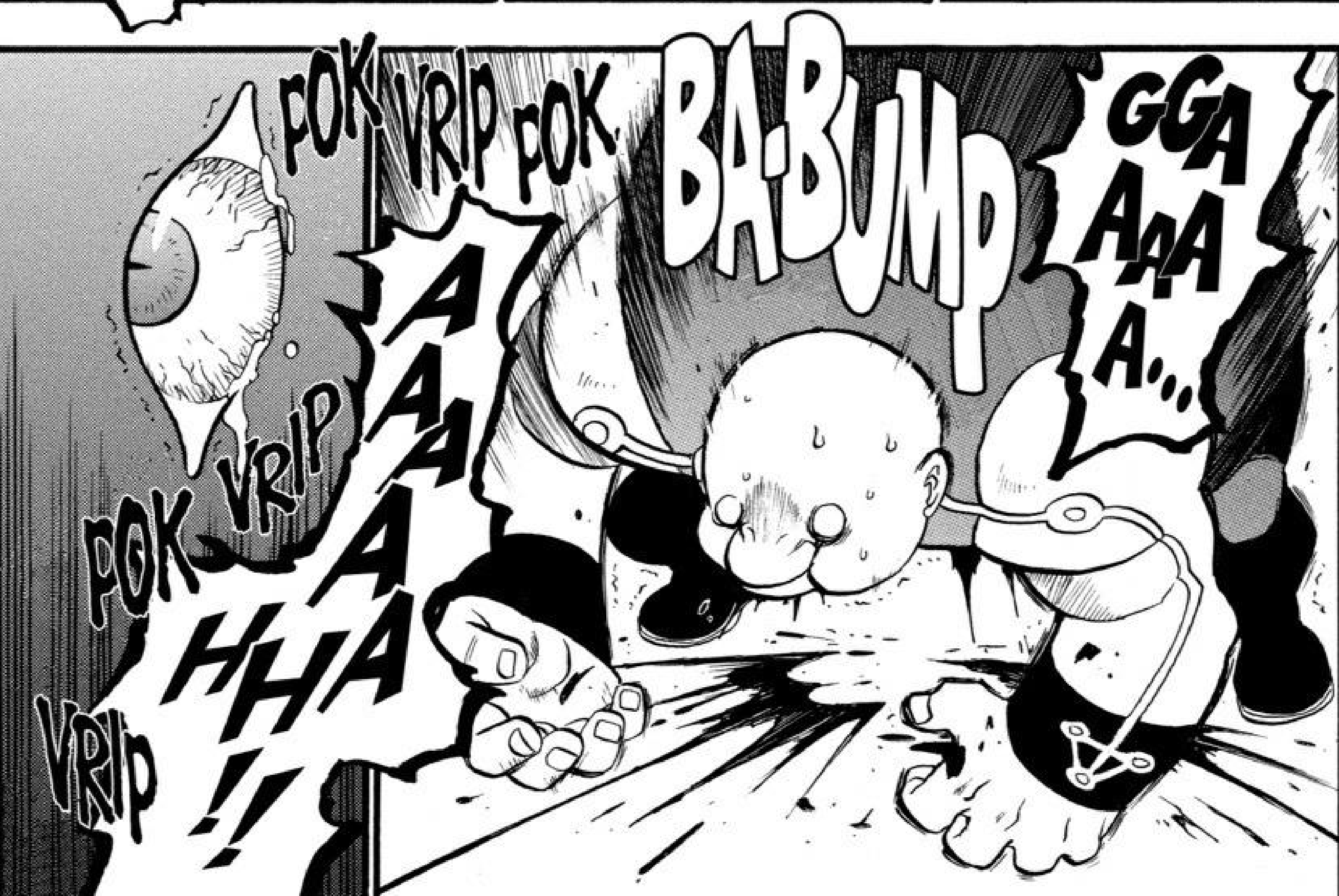
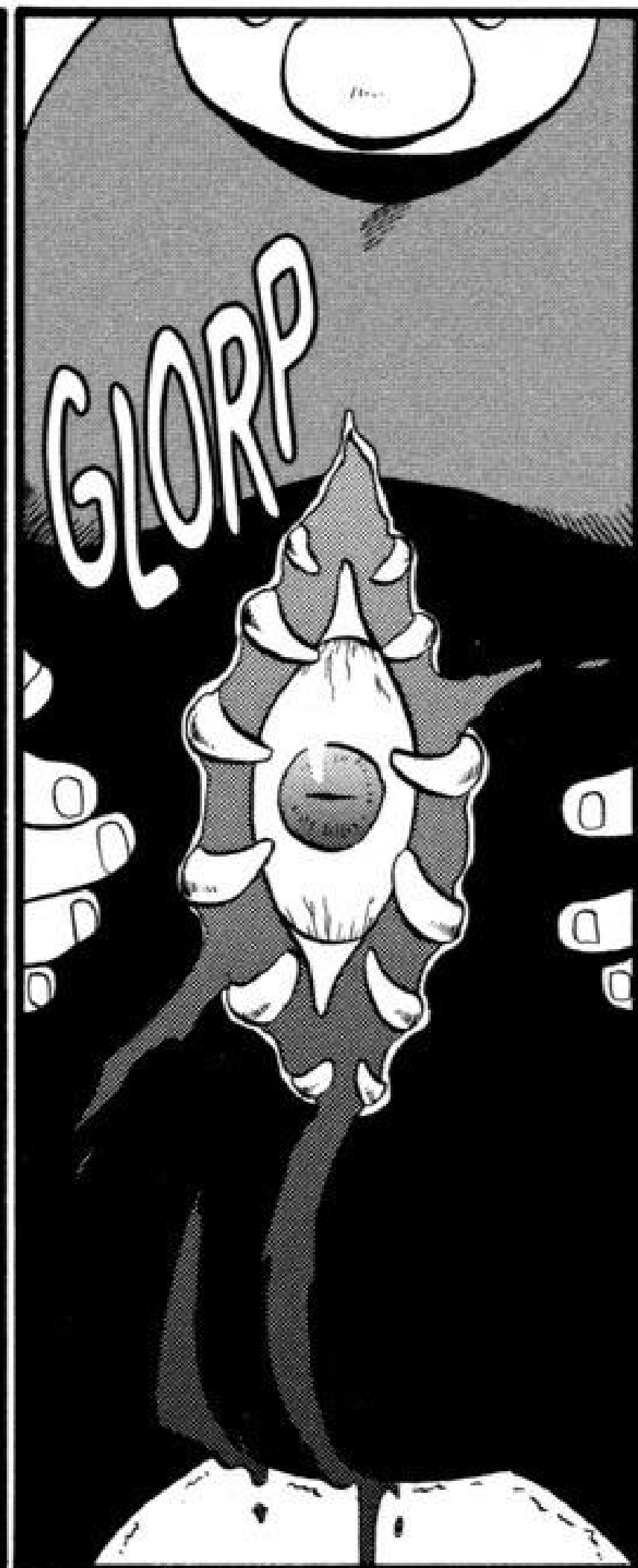
IF WE'RE
CONNECTED,
THEN THAT
MEANS
THERE'S A
POSSIBILITY
THAT I COULD
GET TO WHERE
AL'S BODY
IS!! I WAS
RIGHT!

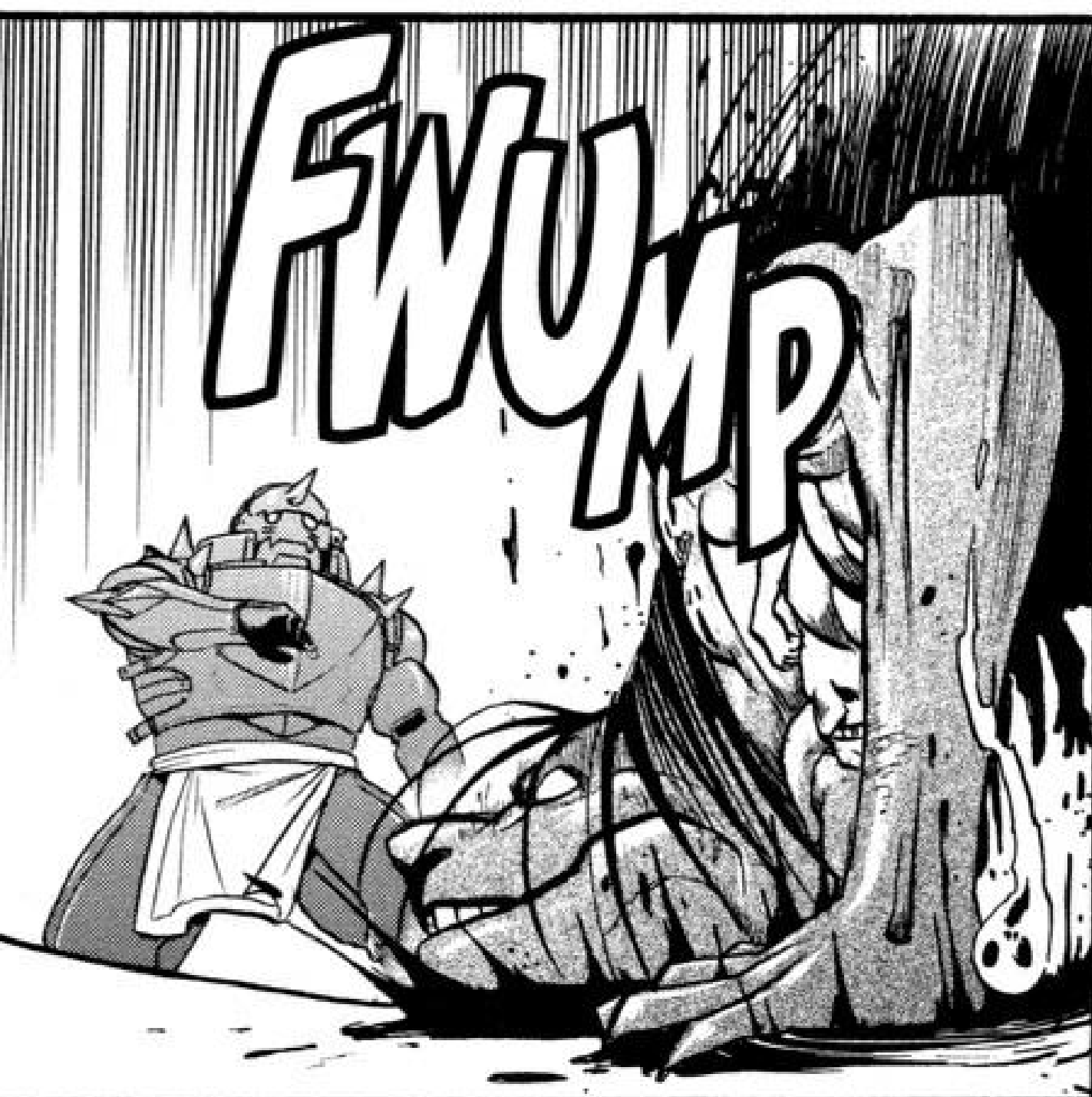


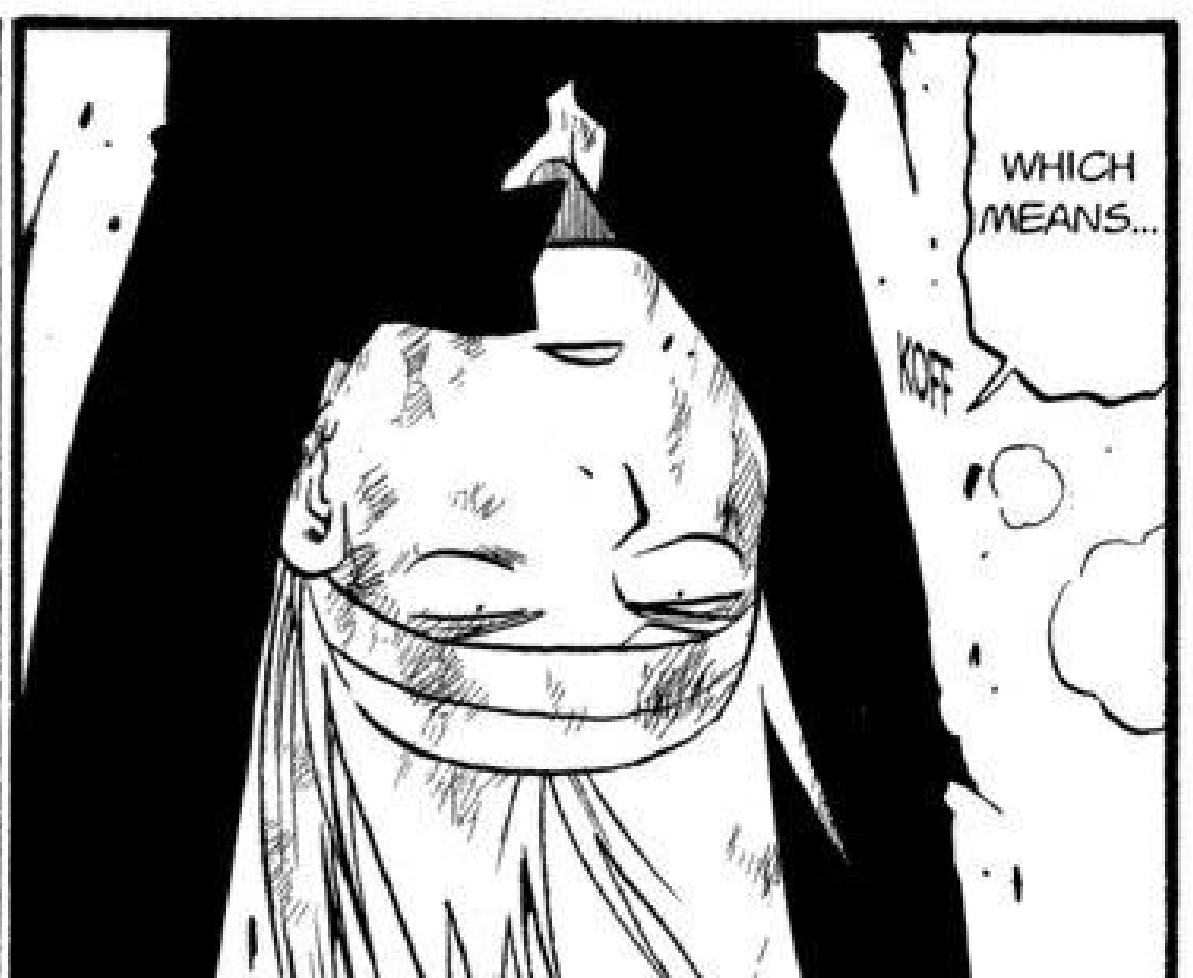
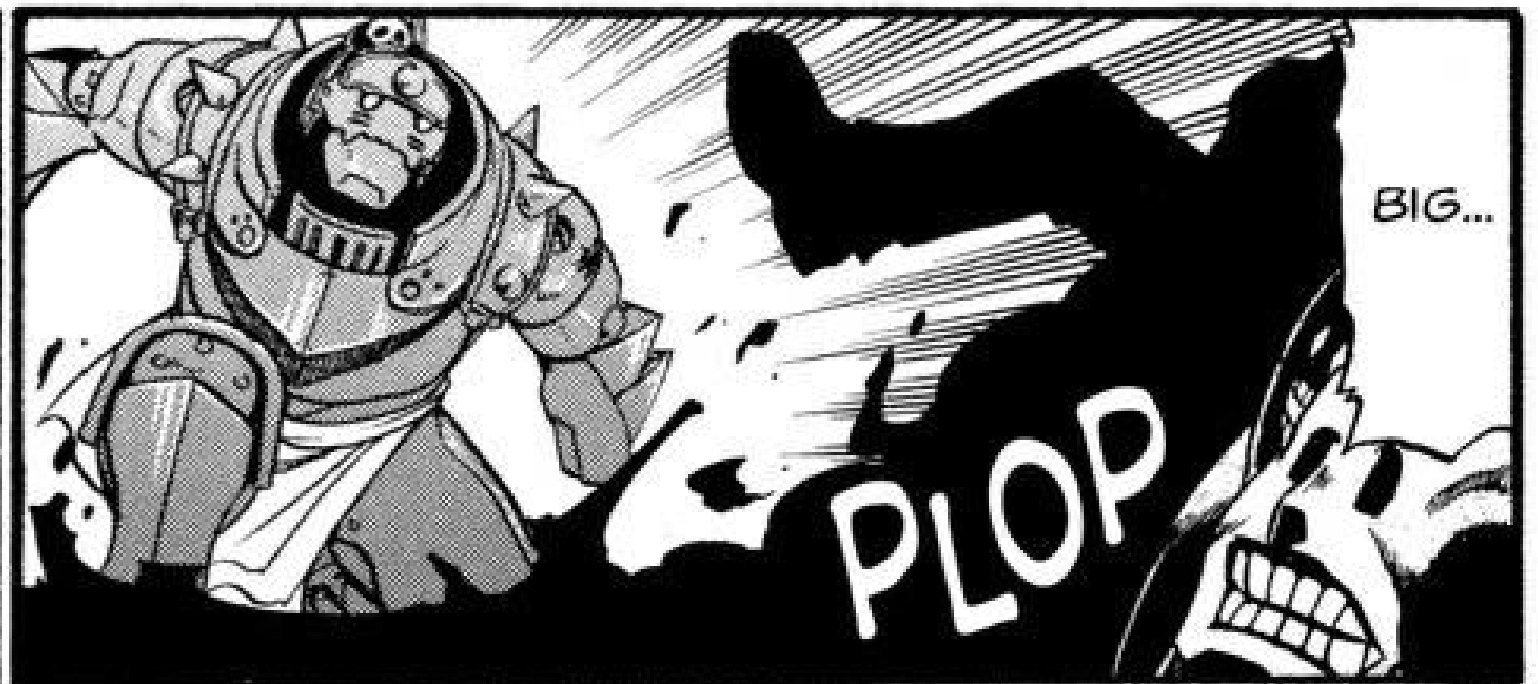
THAT'S
RIGHT! I
HYPOTHEZIZED
THAT AL AND
I ARE
CONNECTED
THROUGH
OUR
SOULS.

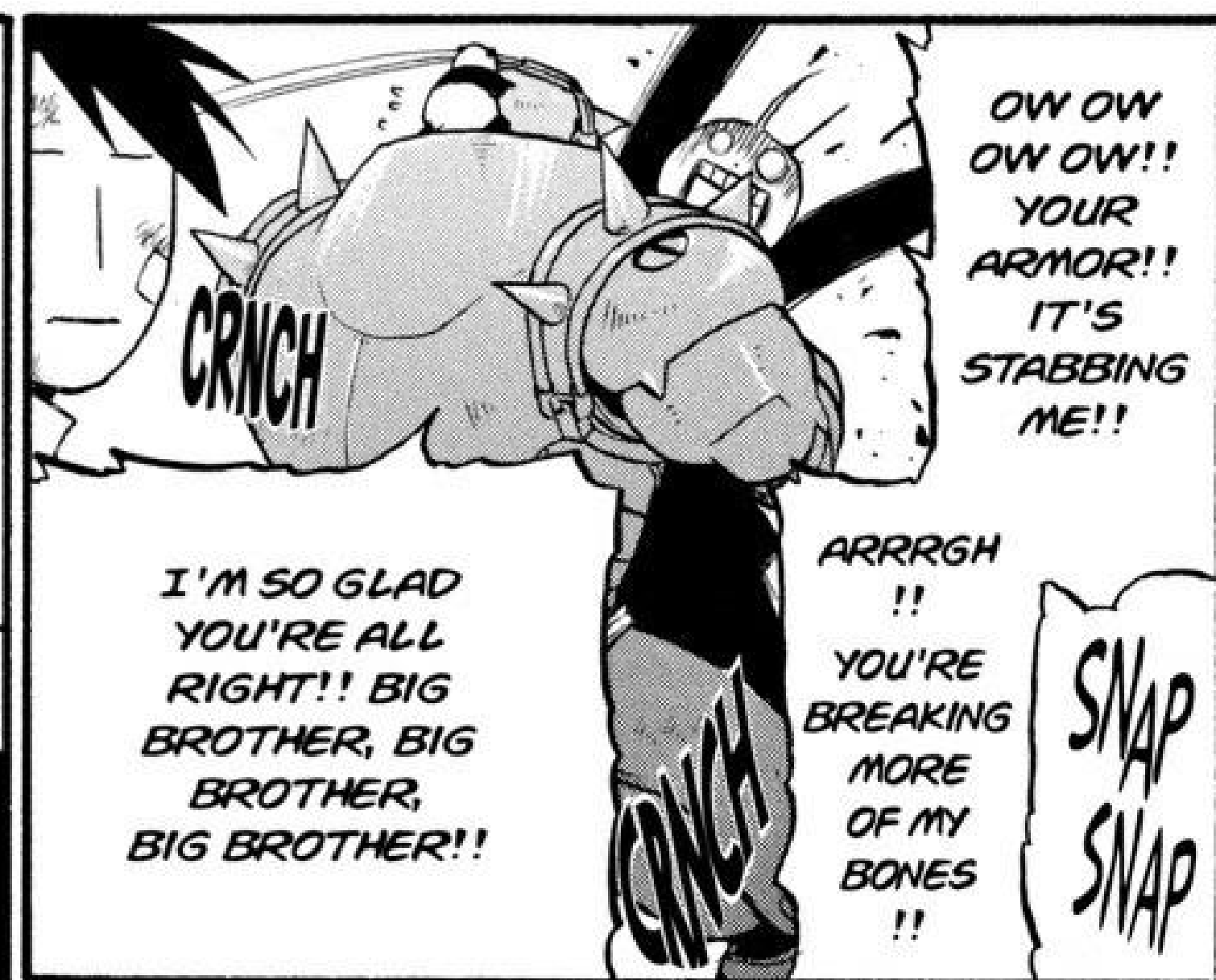


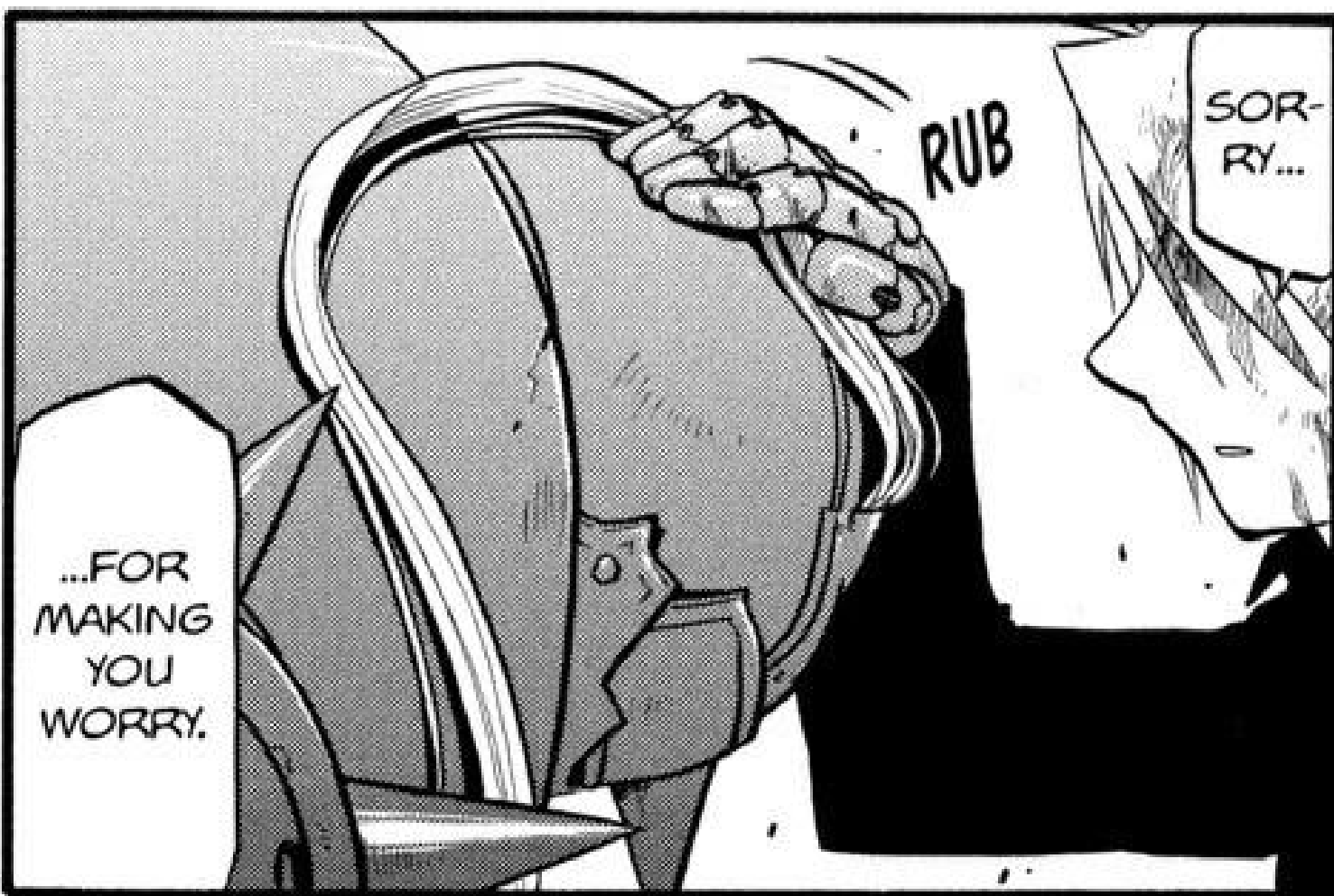
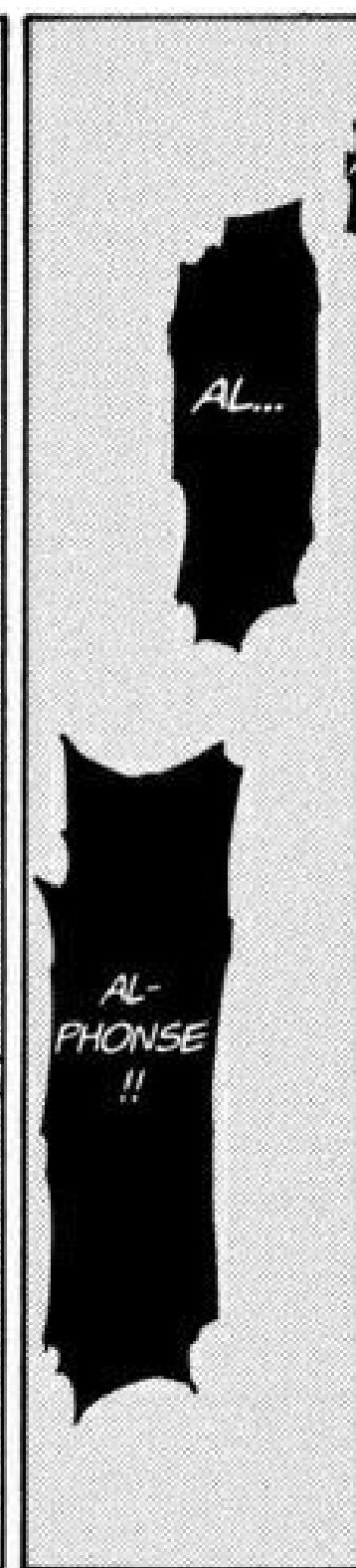
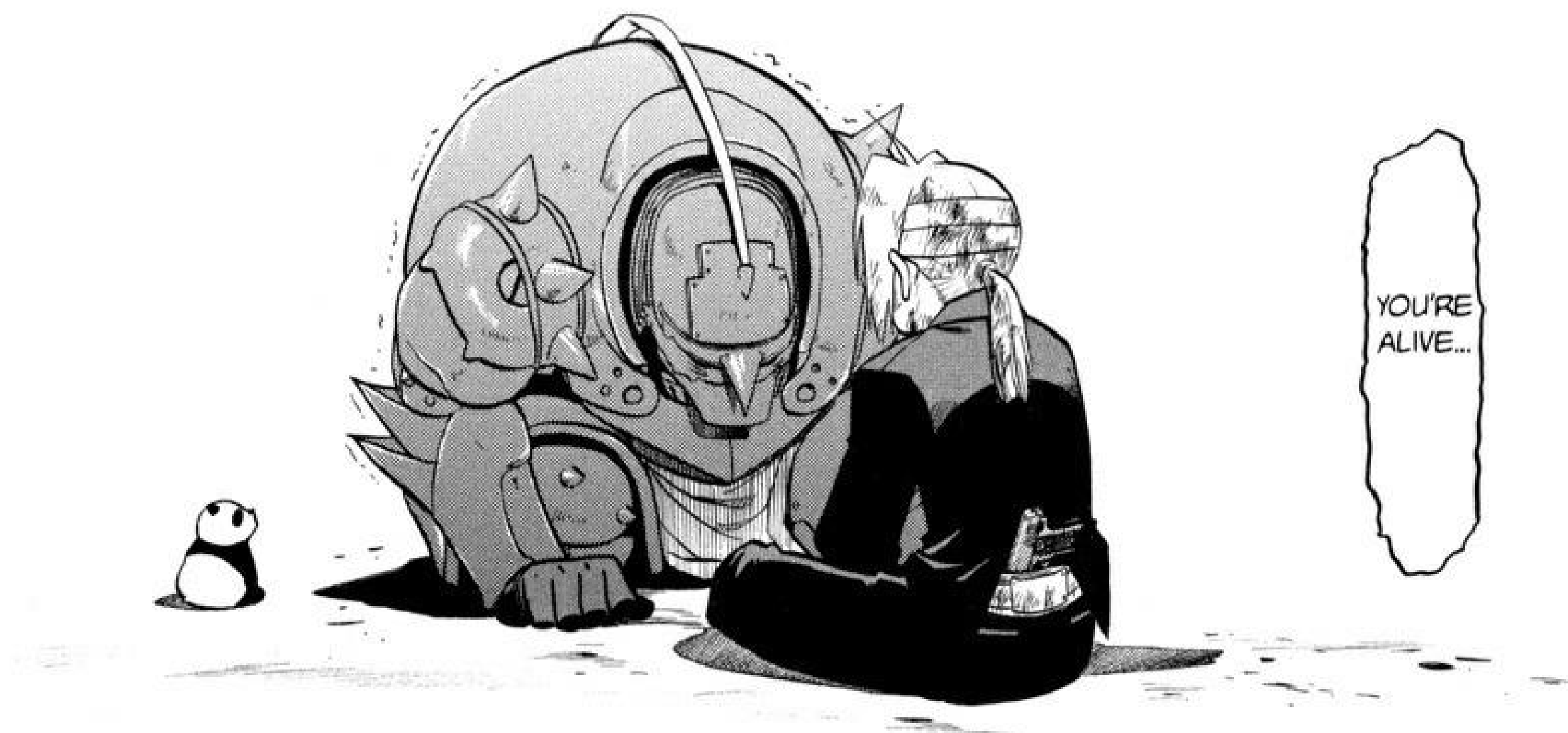


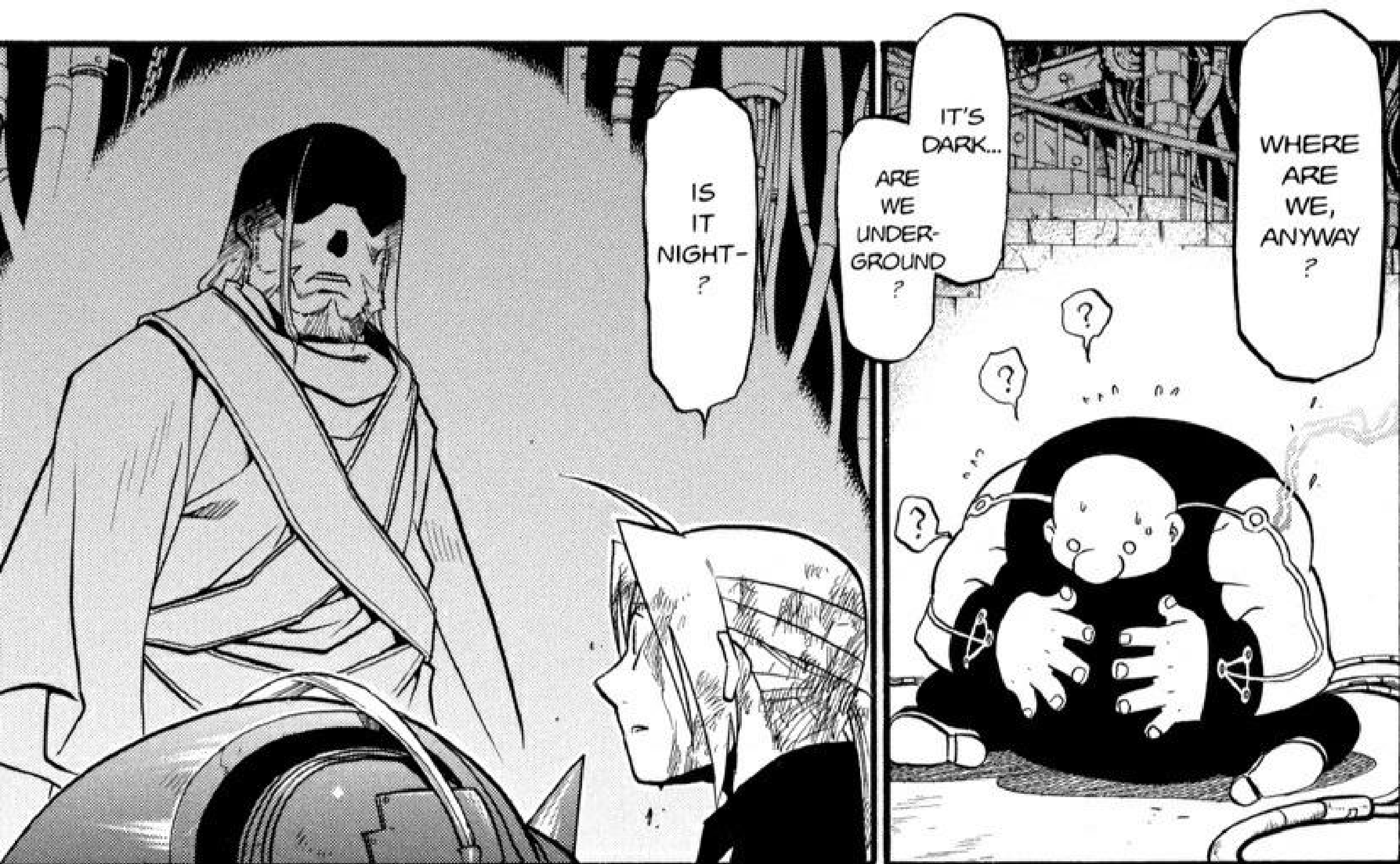
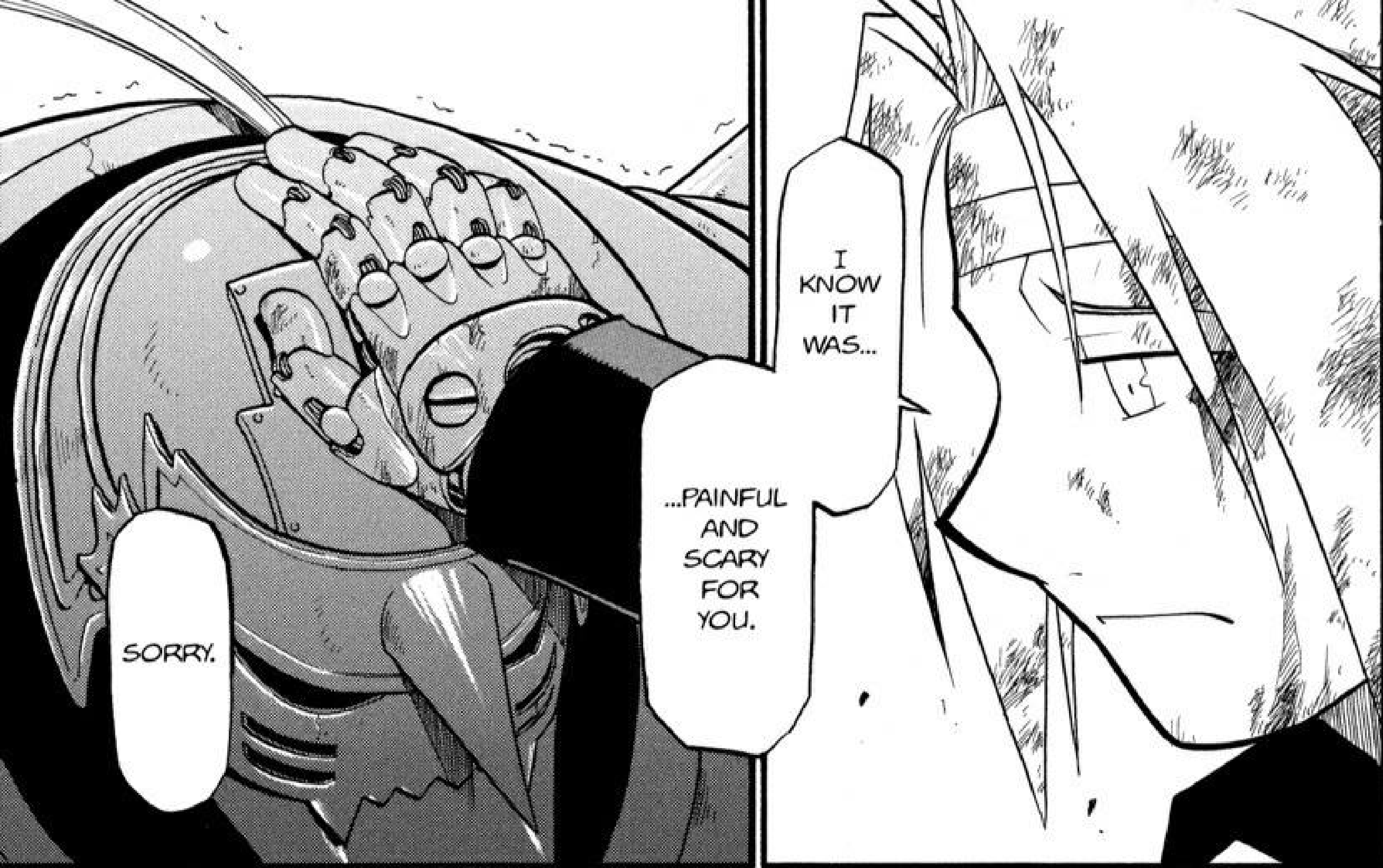






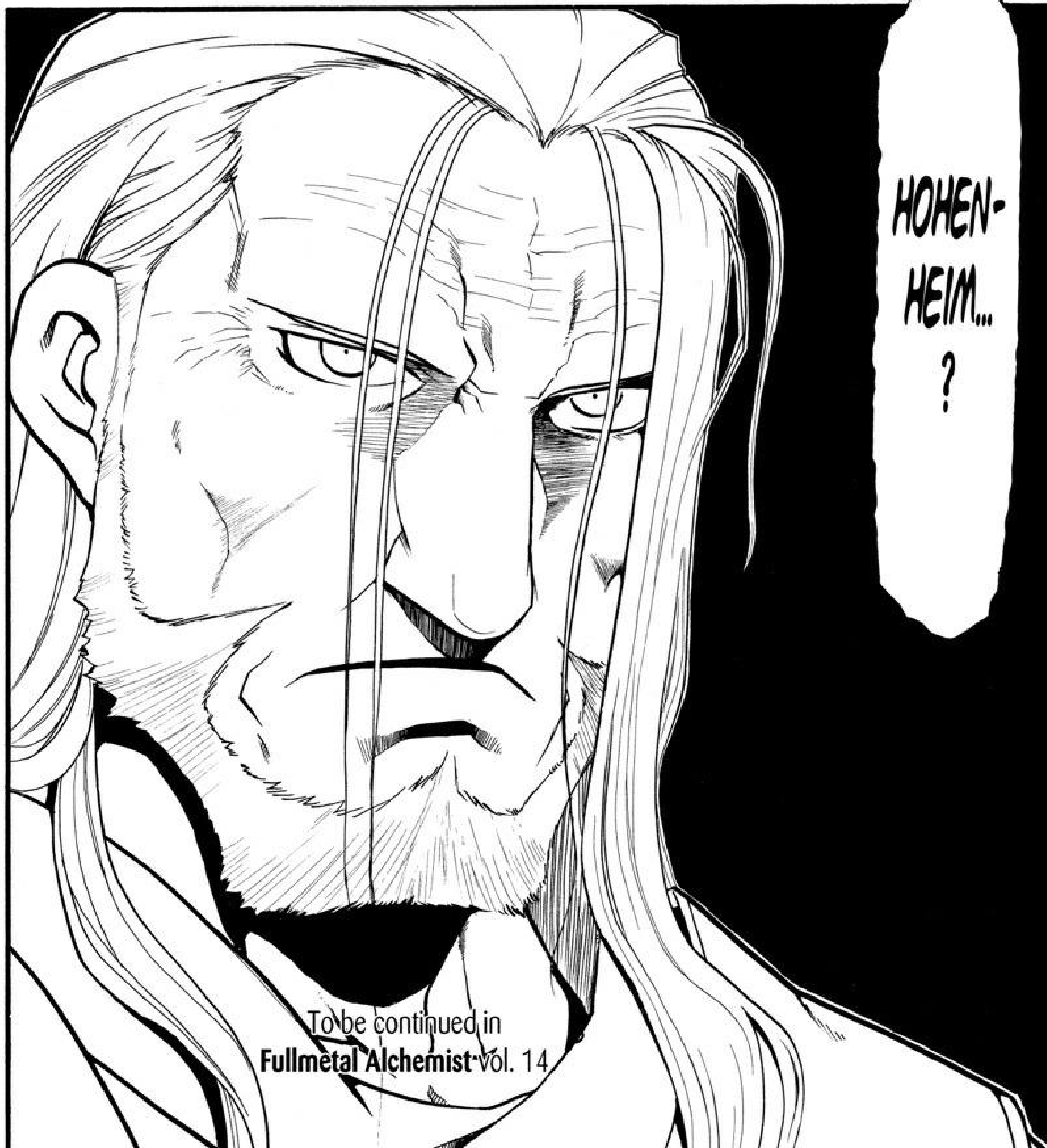
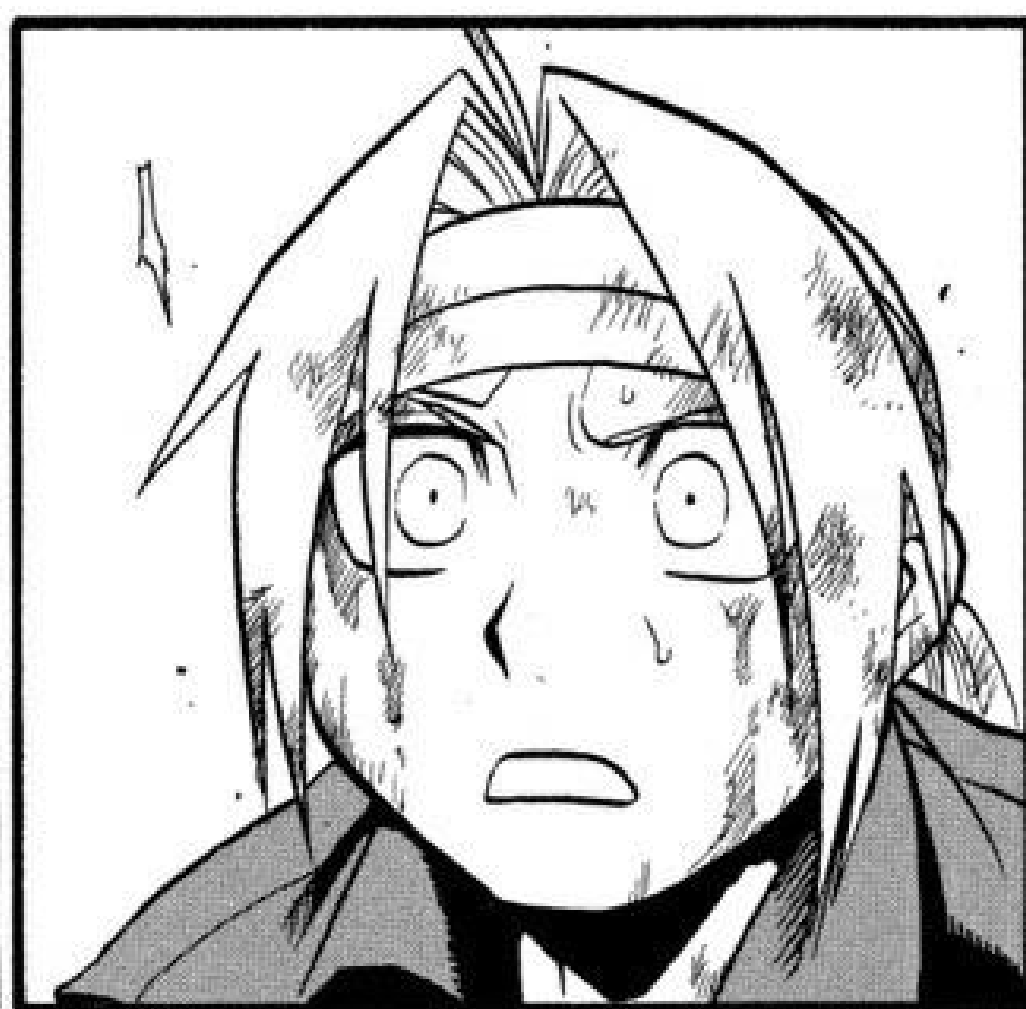








THIS IS
QUITE
A
SURPRISE.



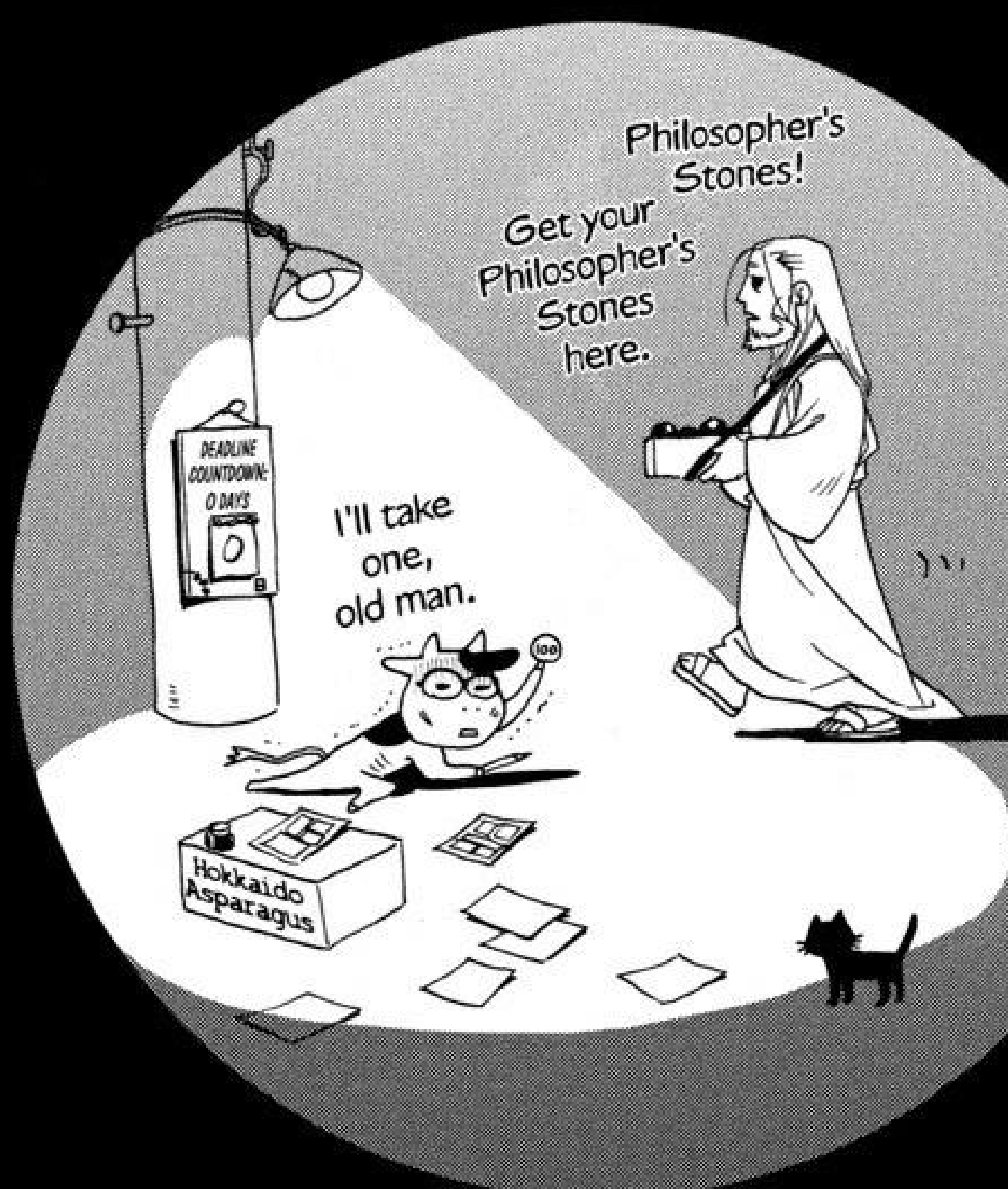
HOHEN-
HEIM...
?

To be continued in
Fullmetal Alchemist vol. 14

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST 13

SPECIAL THANKS

KEISUI TAKAEDA
SANKICHI HINODEYA
JUN TOKO
AIYABALL
NONO
BIG BROTHER KAMITONO YOICHI
MASHI MIZUTANI
YOKO ASANEGI
RIKA SUGIYAMA
EDITOR YOICHI SHIMOMURA
AND YOU!!



The Golden Age



BEWARE OF GREED!


Fullmetal
Alchemist
Preview

FULMETAL ALCHEMIST VOL.14



LIN CAME TO
AMESTRIS IN SEARCH
OF POWER...

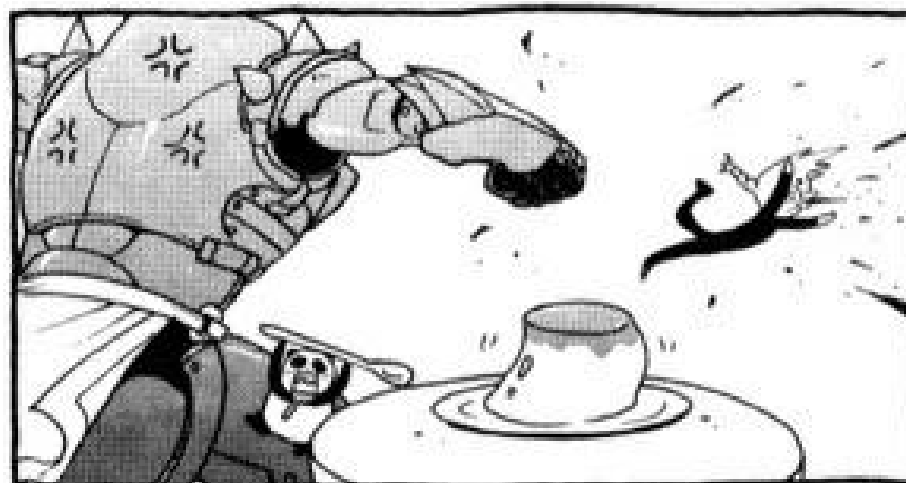
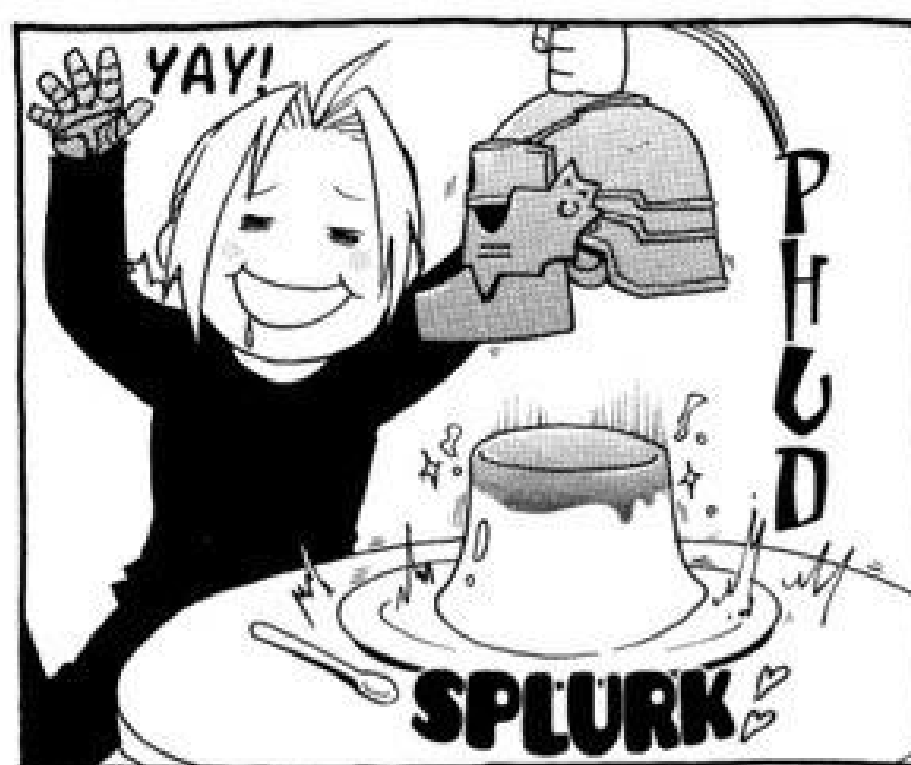
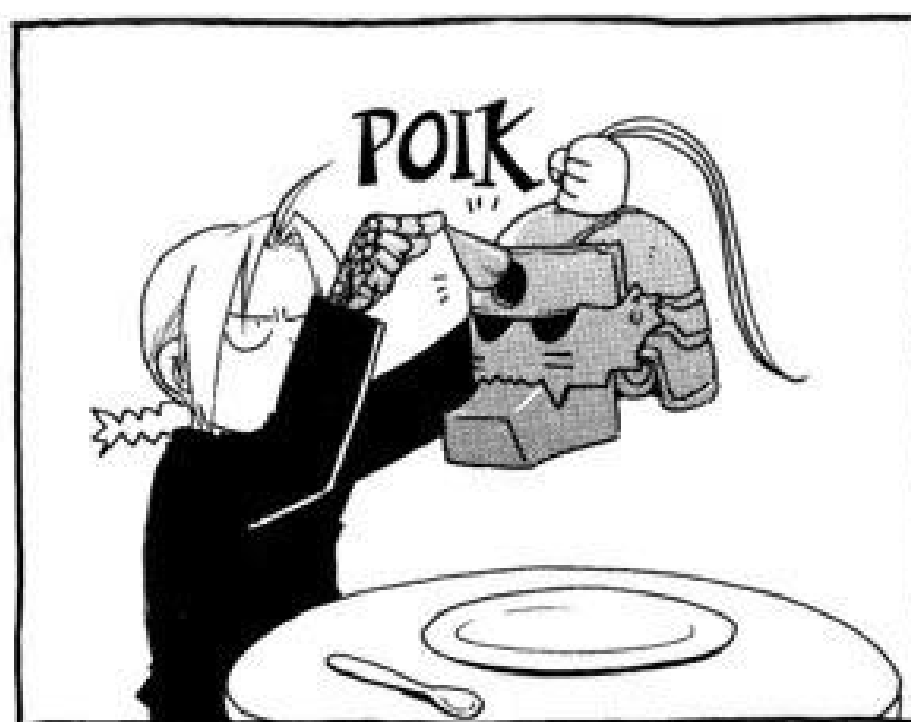
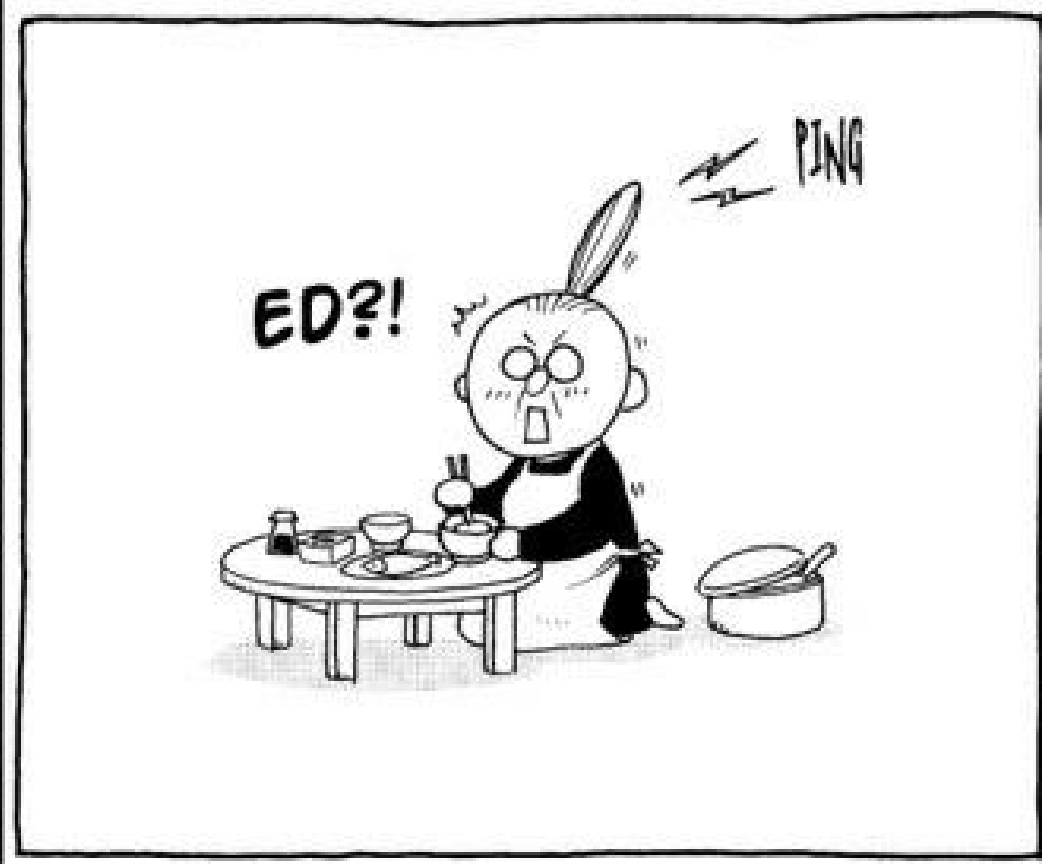
FOR HIS OWN PEOPLE...

...HE'S WILLING TO
RISK EVERYTHING.

THE DESIRES OF
LIN, PRINCE OF THE
XING EMPIRE...

GIVES RISE TO A
NEW CREATION.

PLEASE READ THIS AFTER YOU READ CHAPTER 51 IN THIS VOLUME!



FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST ⑬

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